

## Soviet old guard prevails as Chernenko is named leader

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Konstantin Chernenko, 72, a close aide of the Soviet Union and his election was seen as a victory for older, conservative Communist Party leaders opposed to recent reforms.

Chernenko, 72, a close aide of late president Leonid Brezhnev, was appointed leader of the Soviet Communist Party after an unprecedented four-day delay since the death of Yuri Andropov. (See story, page 4).

Informed Soviet sources said the delay was caused by a stubborn rearguard action by former Andropov supporters in the 12-man Politburo who eventually lost out to conservative officials opposed to Andropov's reforms, which were aimed at rooting out inefficiency and renewing the senior ranks.

Western diplomats here said Chernenko's election meant there would be no sharp changes in Soviet foreign policy but that there might be a shift to a more conciliatory line in the longer term.

U.S. and West European leaders have said they hope the change in the Kremlin will mark a turning point in East-West relations, at their



Konstantin Chernenko

most tense for decades, and the U.S. made immediate moves to create a warmer relationship.

A stocky white-haired Russian born in Siberia with heavy Slavic features, Chernenko is older than any of the five previous Soviet leaders when they took office.

State radio, and television, announced his election by the party Central Committee.

Premier Nikolai Tikhonov, 78, made the official nominating speech at the direction of the Politburo, which had chosen Chernenko and then sent its decision to the Central Committee for what the official Soviet news agency TASS said was unanimous approval.

Chernenko's career has been a slow and steady one up the party ladder in mass political work, and Tikhonov took note of this in his nomination.

Because of Chernenko's age and his lack of background in formulating foreign and domestic policy, he is expected to be the party figurehead while decision-making and governing responsibilities are divided among the other 11 Politburo members.

It is assumed that the Politburo is about equally divided between the "Old Guard" which rose to power with Brezhnev, and younger members added in recent years. The Politburo, which numbered 14 in the later Brezhnev years, could be expanded at any time.

Brezhnev, who ruled for 18 years and died at 75, and the late Premier Nikita Khrushchev were 58 when

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## Jemayel said ready to 're-examine' Israel accord

By DAVID BERNSTEIN  
Post Middle East Reporter  
and agencies

Lebanese President Amin Jemayel was quoted as saying yesterday that he would re-examine last May's withdrawal accord with Israel — his first indication since the latest crisis broke out that he may be moving towards accepting Syria's demand that the pact be abrogated.

He made the remark in talks with foreign journalists on Sunday night, excerpts of which were carried by Beirut Radio yesterday.

It follows a report carried in the latest issue of Newsweek, citing Saudi officials, according to which Jemayel has in fact already agreed to scrap the pact as part of an eight-point Saudi-mediated peace plan.

There was no confirmation from Beirut or Riyadh last night that this is indeed the case. Special Saudi envoy Rafik Hariri was reported to have arrived back in the Lebanese capital from Riyadh yesterday, with plans to proceed from there to Damascus.

According to the Newsweek story, Hariri first broached the Saudi plan, which also includes far-reaching concessions to Jemayel's Druse and Shi'ite rivals, during a visit to Beirut last week. Simultaneously, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal outlined the plan in Damascus — where, Newsweek quotes Saudi officials as saying, it received the backing of Syrian President Hafez Assad.

Whatever the case, it now seems merely a question of time before Jemayel does, in fact, formally cancel the pact with Israel as a prelude to reconvening the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference in Switzerland.

Jemayel has made it plain that he wants the conference, suspended last November over Syria's objections to the pact with Israel, to reconvene as soon as possible (according to some reports, he has already ordered hotel rooms at the proposed site of the conference).

And this will only be possible with Syrian cooperation — something entirely dependent on Jemayel's buckling under to Syrian demands.

Jemayel is reported to have drawn up a detailed 28-point reform plan to be discussed at the reconvened conference in Geneva, the main points of which are the formation of an upper house of parliament where all groups would be fairly represented, Christian-Muslim parity in the lower house, and the abolition of all mention of religion in identity cards.

Other central points of the proposed plan include ending dis-

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## Hussein tells Reagan: 'Palestinian problem comes before Lebanon'

By WOLF BLITZER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Jordan's King Hussein yesterday urged President Ronald Reagan to focus U.S. attention primarily on solving the Palestinian problem rather than on Lebanon.

At a White House meeting, however, there was little progress reported on bringing Hussein into the peace process.

A senior administration official who later briefed reporters said Reagan had restated U.S. positions on the issues of greatest concern to Hussein. "We have not satisfied the king," the U.S. official said. "There was nothing new."

Still, the official indicated that the U.S. was going to address the broader peace process more intensively, now that the marines in Lebanon are about to be redeployed offshore. America's "national obsession" with marines, he said, had ended.

He reaffirmed U.S. support for the May 17 Israeli-Lebanese security agreement, insisting that it should not "lightly be tossed aside." At the same time, he noted that if Israel and Lebanon themselves decide on changes, the U.S. would not object.

Reagan is due to receive Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak at the White House today for another round of discussions on Lebanon, the broader peace process and other regional problems. Later in the day, Reagan, Mubarak and Hussein are slated to meet together.

On Sunday night, Hussein and Mubarak had a private dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel here — accompanied only by their wives.



President Reagan meets yesterday with King Hussein of Jordan.

(UPI telephoto)

U.S. officials welcomed that session, which, they said, again underlined the increased willingness of moderate Arab leaders to accept Egypt despite its peace treaty with Israel.

At a White House ceremony, both Reagan and Hussein acknowledged the difficulties in the peace process, but both pledged to seek progress.

In his public remarks, Reagan pointed to the many sources of tension in the Middle East besides Lebanon — the war between Iran and Iraq and conflicts in Chad and in the western Sahara. He also spoke of the dangers of state-sponsored terrorism.

At the same time, he reaffirmed U.S. support for Jordan's security. Last Friday, the administration notified Congress of its intention to sell up to 1,600 Stinger anti-aircraft

missiles to Jordan.

The administration also is trying to persuade Israel to acquiesce in the formation of a U.S.-armed Jordanian strike force, administration sources said yesterday.

Congress has 50 days to block the sale. If either the Senate or the House fails to mount a veto in that time, the deal will go through.

The Israeli government, which is weighing an administration appeal that it go along with the strike force, is preparing to launch a campaign against the Stinger missiles. "They can very easily fall into undesirable hands," said an Israeli official here. "You can imagine the damage the PLO could do with 20 of them."

Hussein is to meet today with Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger to review other Jordan-

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## Slim chance Soviets may alter Mideast policy

By HARM SHAPIRO  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

There is little chance that the election of Konstantin Chernenko will affect Soviet foreign policy in the Middle East, but the recent wave of anti-Semitism in Russia may let up, two Hebrew University Sovietologists said yesterday.

Professors Galia Golan and Theodore Friedgut agreed there would be little change in the Soviet attitude towards Israel. Golan noted that this is a policy which Yuri Andropov had inherited from Leonid Brezhnev. Friedgut added that, unfortunately, this policy "is going reasonably well for them."

As for the possibility of increased emigration of Soviet Jews, they concurred that this is an issue bound up with U.S.-Soviet détente, now a dead letter. Friedgut said that the only hope in this direction would be

a renewed interest in détente by President Ronald Reagan as part of his election campaign.

More difficult to predict is whether the current wave of anti-Semitism in the Soviet press will end with Chernenko's appointment. Golan said that it is possible that Andropov himself had instigated the campaign, in which case it would end. But Friedgut noted that it is possible that Chernenko had used anti-Semitism in his struggle for the succession. "If not, we have a chance," he said.

Friedgut added that the fate of Soviet Jewry could depend to some extent on the line taken by Israel's leaders. He pointed out that Premier Yitzhak Shamir has already taken a belligerent tone, referring to "rulers in the Kremlin" and linking Soviet policy in the Middle East to its treatment of its Jews.

This, he said, could produce little positive reaction.

Judy Siegel adds: Jewish Agency Executive Chairman Arye Dulzin expressed the hope that Chernenko would follow in the footsteps of Leonid Brezhnev in initiating a more lenient approach to Jewish emigration.

Dulzin told reporters in Jerusalem that Israel has been assured in its meetings with American officials that they raise the Soviet Jewry issue every time they sit across a table from Soviet representatives.

Dulzin added that most American Jewish leaders have come around to the Jewish Agency position on dropouts, and concede that it is a mistake to encourage the settling of Soviet Jews in countries other than Israel.



Defence Minister Moshe Arens addresses the Knesset Law Committee yesterday on the Karp Report. Seen left to right, committee chairman Eli Kulas (Likud), Shoshana Arbeli (Alignment), Arens, Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp and Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir. (Carlo Feinblatt)

## Dozens of volunteers join Haddad militia

MARJAYOUN (Itim). — Several dozen Shi'ites, Druse and Christians yesterday joined the South Lebanon militia of the late Major Sa'ad Haddad at a special mobilization centre established here.

After filling in forms, they were sent for training to one of several camps in the region. Israel Defence Forces liaison officers with the militia expressed satisfaction at the number of volunteers despite the death of Haddad. The militia is currently commanded by Haddad's deputy, Sharbat Barakat.

Marjayoun will be the site of a memorial assembly to be held soon for the late commander. Following the ceremony, the new militia commander is expected to be named.

## Arens: No decision yet on IDF redeployment

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Knesset Correspondent

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said yesterday that the government is considering redeploying the IDF in Southern Lebanon but has taken no decisions as yet.

There is a need to strike a proper balance between occupying an area of territory adequate to ensure the security of Galilee, and the advisability of remaining in control of a minimal population, he told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

The minister said that the IDF could not be man hermetically-sealed lines, in what was taken by his hearers as a reminder that the IDF would have to allow free passage of people and goods between north and south, under an "open bridges" policy.

The eventual deployment would be a function of the weapons and the challenges which faced the IDF from the opposite side of the deployment line, he said. The positions in the west and in central

Lebanon are not the same as in the east, he said. If the IDF withdrew unilaterally in the west, hostile elements would exploit the withdrawal to press attacks, he warned. The deployment in the east would be a function of the distance which Israel wanted to place between its borders and the Syrian army.

Labour's Abba Eban said the biggest fiasco in the operation was the government's premise that a Christian government could rule Lebanon effectively.

## Shamir tells Jordan: territory no bar to ties

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

The territorial dispute between Israel and Jordan need not necessarily preclude cooperation and normal relations in other matters, Prime Minister Shamir said yesterday.

In a conversation with an American congressman about to visit the Hashemite kingdom, Shamir noted that "there are many countries that have territorial disagreements, but that does not necessarily prevent normal relations or cooperation between them."

The congressman, Wyche Fowler (D-Georgia), will also visit Syria on his Middle East tour.

Shamir said Jordan ought to open negotiations with Israel "without losing any time." It ought to sever its links with the PLO, which he said is essentially hostile to the Hashemite regime. "He (King Hussein) should make peace with us, not with Arafat," Shamir urged.

Shamir listed several areas in which the two countries could usefully cooperate: water resources,

agriculture, tourism to Eilat and Akaba, and economic projects.

In answer to the congressman's questions about the Palestinians living under Israeli administration, Shamir said their economic situation is good and it is wrong to say they have no political outlet since most of them are Jordanian citizens and are represented in the Jordanian Parliament.

Shamir noted that demonstrations took place on the West Bank in the days of Jordanian administration too — and they were dispersed by the army shooting into the crowd. "No one in the U.S. or Europe raised his voice about that," the premier said. Now the situation has radically changed and no such brutal methods are employed by the Israeli authorities to keep order, he said.

Shamir urged Fowler to take up the plight of Syrian Jewry in his meetings in Damascus. He said it is important that the Syrian government know that American politicians take an interest in the fate of the Jews of Syria.

## Knesset unit ends pension exemptions

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter  
The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved the abolition of the tax exemption for pensions of early retirees still earning incomes, but decided to leave the exemptions for pensions of retired permanent army personnel.

The decision not to abolish the exemption for retired army personnel was reached after Avraham Melamed, (National Religious Party) caused a row among coalition members by voting against the coalition. Coalition whip Yigal Cohen declared that he will try to introduce an amendment to the bill when it is tabled for second reading today.

The committee also approved a regulation exempting from taxes amounts withdrawn by workers from retraining funds (Keren Histamut) after six years or after three years for workers reaching retirement age.

Dan Tichon (Liberals) protested against what he called the discrimination between workers and self-employed on payments to retraining funds. He said that whereas the employers contribution for workers to the fund, 7.5 per cent of the basic gross wage, is tax free, the self-employed do not enjoy the same exemption.

## Zamir, Arens defend Karp Report

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Knesset Correspondent

Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir said yesterday that all those who call for the resignation of his deputy Yehudit Karp, because of the report she submitted about the failure of the authorities to investigate fully alleged crimes by Jews against Arabs in the areas, would have to call for his resignation as well.

Speaking in the Knesset Law

Committee, sitting jointly with the Interior Committee, Zamir said that all those who criticized Karp should not forget that representatives of the IDF and the police had been members of her committee and had approved the report in its entirety, before it was submitted.

Zamir said that "certain people" had got into the habit of calling on him to resign, whenever he handled matters which had a political angle.

Karp's only motivation was the desire to uphold the rule of law, he told the committee.

Although the specific cases in the report had all been meticulously examined and checked, he said, it was important for the Knesset committee at this point to relate to the general conclusion. This was that there had been no way of enforcing law and order in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

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## Patt: 'Free trade' pact with U.S. may be worthless

By AARON SITNER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Even if the U.S. Congress approves it, the proposed Israeli-American no-tariff "free trade area" arrangement may turn out to be worthless because of Israel's limited production capacity, industry and Trade Minister Gideon Patt warned yesterday.

Patt, who was instrumental in moving the free trade area idea from the planning to the negotiating stage, noted that the American negotiating team is now in Jerusalem to discuss the arrangement, which is expected to come up for congressional action before summer.

Addressing the Jerusalem Economic Club's monthly luncheon meeting at the Moriah Hotel, Patt said: "Population-wise, the U.S. market is about the same size as the Common Market. Yet, the Americans' purchasing power is 10 times that of the EEC's."

Even if tariffs and quotas fall away, Israeli goods entering the U.S. market, the only type of products we could sell there are the products of our high-technology industries. And here we have a mind-

boggling problem. Just as the no-tariff, no-quota arrangement gets into swing, we will face a shortage of 9,000 graduate engineers and approximately 15,000 technicians in our science-based, technology-oriented industries.

"That will mean that our exports to the U.S. will have to continue in the same fashion as they are today — based mainly on Gortex bathing suits and Gabor pantyhose for the ladies in America, and Delta undershorts for the gentlemen. That, I'm afraid, is no way to narrow our trade gap if and when we are

granted that unprecedented opportunity of a free trade area arrangement with the Americans."

Patt also warned the capital's businessmen not to become too enthusiastic over the December and January import and export statistics, which suggested an improvement compared with the 12 months preceding them.

"I would not rely on such preliminary indications as signs of success in our new economic programme," he said. "I still fear the possibility of unemployment here ranging between 40,000 and

60,000 people, and unless the current negotiations for the upcoming wage agreements succeed, we are headed for lots of trouble in the economy."

Avi Temkin adds: The second round of talks between the U.S. and Israel on the establishment of a free trade zone opened yesterday in Jerusalem. The talks will deal mainly with the legal aspects of the proposal.

Heading the American delegation is Nancy Adams, U.S. trade representative official. Israel's delegation is headed by its economic minister in Washington, Dan Halperin.

According to the Trade and Industry Ministry, the talks will not touch upon the objections recently raised by American unions and companies in a Senate hearing. The ministry added that both sides exchanged information on customs policy and on the legal framework of the possible agreement.

The ministry said an Israeli delegation will leave for Washington late this month for a final round of talks, to be followed by a meeting in March between Patt and the U.S. special trade representative William Brock.

## Gov't aid for engineers, not philosophers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Only university courses directly benefiting export production deserve government support, industry and Trade Minister Gideon Patt declared yesterday.

In discussing the problem of under-capacity of skilled production personnel in high-technology industries, Patt called for an immediate end to the per-student party in government assistance for Bar-Ilan University and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where Judaic and abstract studies, respectively, dominate the curricula, "and that of the Technion, where they prepare engineers."

If the young people wish to study the humanities, philosophy or other disciplines, that is fine. But the Israeli taxpayer should not have to support that study, Patt said.

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NEWSWEEK

February 20, 1984

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Shimon Peres  
★ Special Report:  
Pullout from  
Beirut  
★ Death in Moscow

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## The weather at major Swissair destinations

13.2.1984	MIN.	MAX.	C F
AMSTERDAM	0	24	32
BRUSSELS	-2	28	28
BUSINESS AIRS	2	10	34
CHICAGO	2	10	34
COPENHAGEN	-2	28	28
FRANKFURT	-2	28	28
GENEVA	2	10	34
Helsinki	0	32	32
HONG KONG	14	17	57
JOHANNESBURG	16	28	62
LONDON	2	10	34
LONDON	1	34	93
MADRID	-2	28	28
MONTREAL	-2	28	28
NEW YORK	2	10	34
OSLO	-2	28	28
PARIS	-2	28	28
RIO DE JANEIRO	20	28	68
SAO PAULO	20	28	68
STOCKHOLM	-2	28	28
TOKYO	14	17	57
TORONTO	0	32	32
VIENNA	-2	28	28
ZURICH	-2	28	28

## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with some light rain.

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
Handily	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	17-24	24
Golan	8-15	15
Safed	9-16	16
Haifa Port	13-18	18
Tiberias	11-17	17
Nazareth	9-15	15
Afula	10-16	16
Shomron	11-17	17
Tel Aviv	16-21	21
B-C Airport	15-20	20
Jericho	9-15	15
Gaza	8-16	16
Beer Sheva	12-18	18
Elitzur	22-28	28

## ARRIVALS

Mrs. Selma Weintraub, president, Women's League for Conservative Judaism, and Mrs. Bernice Balter, executive, for the President's Conference Mission and Women's League for Conservative Judaism projects and programs in Israel; Mr. Jacob Stein, president of United Synagogue of America and former chairman, President's Conference, for Conference meetings in Jerusalem, and Mrs. Stein.

## JEMAYEL

(Continued from Page One)

crimination in government offices, establishing a supreme court, and election of the president by a 55 per cent vote by deputies after the first ballot, instead of a simple majority. Jemayel told reporters in Beirut on Sunday night that the main sticking point was the Lebanon-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement of last May 17.

"This agreement itself is not the aim," he said. "What is more important is the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. We are considering means of ensuring a solution to this problem."

Meanwhile, Moslem militiamen, Lebanese Army troops and French forces yesterday cooperated to open a small gap in the "green line" dividing Beirut, and a few motorists and pedestrians managed to cross for the first time in a week.

The Lebanese capital had been effectively sliced in two since Moslem and leftist militias fought a bloody 17-hour battle to seize mainly Moslem West Beirut from army control.

Since then the militias have been fighting localized battles day and night along the "green line", preventing almost all private and commercial crossings and causing West Beirut to run short of some essential supplies.

Shiite Amal militia leader Nabih Berri, the new master of West Beirut, said 220 tons of flour had come through yesterday, plus petrol, fuel oil and badly needed oxygen for hospitals.

## Bank officials fined for securities violation

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Three former officials of the Mizrahi Bank were yesterday fined \$130,000 each in the magistrate's court here and given four-month suspended sentences for breaking the law pertaining to securities.

Haim Goldberg of Petah-Tikva, deputy director of the bank's mutual funds, and Albert Malka of Tel Aviv and David Spindel of Herzliya, both of whom were brokers for the bank at the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, conspired to profit personally from their specialized knowledge.

Working through the bank account of Spindel's brother-in-law, they bought securities and used their knowledge to double their \$120,000 deposits.

They were found guilty of holding securities while serving as Stock Exchange officials, breach of trust and holding a bank account in another person's name.

## HOME NEWS

IN THE KNESSET/Aryeh Rubinstein

## Arens blasts probe of war decisions

Defence Minister Moshe Arens yesterday described as "pathological" the intense energy being devoted to "examining the protocols" dealing with the crucial decisions in the course of the Lebanese war.

Arens was replying to the debate on the war, which opened several weeks ago, and which was initiated by Michael Bar-Zohar (Alignment).

A coalition resolution "taking note" of Arens' statement was adopted by a vote of 52-41. Conspicuous by their absence were Yitzhak Berman and Dror Zeigerman (Likud-Liberals) and Avraham Melamed (National Religious Party).

Arens said that only in the Lavon affair had there been such morbid pecking and digging into past events and documents with such little justification.

The War of Attrition — most intensive in 1970-72 with daily loss of life — was quite comparable in its frustration and uncertainty as to whether the government was following the right course. But there had been no demands for a commission of inquiry, Arens said.

He noted that at Major Sa'ad Haddad's funeral a few weeks ago, he had met with three former ministers of defence: Shimon Peres, Ezer Weizman, and Haim Bar-Lev.

All four were united on three points, Arens said — "in our desire to find allies in Lebanon, in our interest in deterring those who must be deterred, and in the importance of creating a security strip that will ensure peace and quiet in the North."

"These are still our objectives," Arens said.

Bar-Zohar said that following the recent events in Beirut, the government's policy had collapsed and the prime minister has in effect adopted the Alignment's position on withdrawal from Lebanon.

He said that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in a speech on Sunday, had specified only one condition for Israel's pullback — the establishment of security arrangements in Southern Lebanon to ensure peace for Galilee. No longer was Shamir insisting on Syria's withdrawal and the implementation of the Israel-Lebanese agreement, he said.

## Emergency Regulations

A bill to extend for six months the emergency regulations governing the adjudication of crimes committed by Israeli civilians in Lebanon passed its first reading yesterday.

Alignment members either voted against or abstained.

When this technical bill was presented last Tuesday by Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, Alignment speakers turned the debate into one on the war.

## Government employees in Lebanon

Arens said yesterday that the question of granting military status to government workers in Lebanon is under consideration by his ministry.

He was replying to a question from Pinhas Goldstein (Likud-Liberals) who noted that such workers — notably those of the Public Works Department and the Communications Ministry — have been refusing to serve in Lebanon.

Their refusal stems from the fact that compensation paid them or their families in the event of injury or death is less than that paid to IDF personnel or their families.

## Kimche visits Singapore, meets prime minister

Jerusalem Post Staff

Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche completed a four-day visit to Singapore yesterday as part of a tour of the Far East. Kimche met with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, Foreign Minister S. R. Nambalan, and other ministers and officials in the highest-level contact between the two countries in five years.

Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem said that Kimche and his

hosts discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral matters.

Kimche also brought up the matter of Singapore's voting pattern in international forums regarding the Middle East, the sources said.

Lee reportedly recalled the aid Israel had extended his country during its first years of independence, at a time when appeals for aid to other nations went unanswered.

During his meeting with the foreign minister, Kimche stressed

Israel's interest in promoting moderation among non-aligned countries.

A meeting of Israeli ambassadors in Asia and Oceania was held at the same time in Singapore, for the first time in many years. The development of Israel's relations with these countries was discussed.

The meeting was part of the Foreign Ministry's efforts to intensify Israel's contacts with developing countries and to strengthen its position among those countries.

## Electricity price upped

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Electricity rates will rise by 14 per cent this month and not by 18 per cent as originally planned. This was decided yesterday in a meeting between Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orad.

The two ministers, who jointly set energy pricing policy, were directed on Sunday by the Ministerial Economic Committee to consider a more moderate rise in electricity rates for this month. The request for a 14 per cent increase retroactive to the beginning of the month must be

approved by the Knesset Finance Committee.

The Energy Ministry is now examining possible ways to lower rates for domestic use and for consumption at non-peak hours.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy has criticized the frequent steep increases in the prices of subsidized commodities such as basic foodstuffs and fuel, and proposed in the cabinet on Sunday that a special committee decide on how much electricity rates should be raised this month.

## CHERNENKO

(Continued from Page One)

they "became party leaders." The Soviet Union's only other top party leaders — Vladimir Lenin and Josef Stalin — were much younger.

In the streets of Moscow, adorned with the black-ribboned red Soviet flags of mourning, Soviet people were taking the news in their stride.

Chernenko made no reference in his acceptance speech regarding Soviet relations with the developing countries or China.

Diplomats said they were surprised that he did not refer to Peking, as the attendance of Chinese Vice-Premier Wan Li at today's funeral would offer a chance for new moves to improve Sino-Soviet ties.

But Chernenko implied there would be a wide reassessment of Andropov's approach to economic reform, which was marked by the promotion of well-educated technocrats to senior party posts linked with the economy.

"The practice of substituting economic managers disenchants the cadres. Moreover, this harbours the danger of weakening the role of the party committee as a body of political guidance," he said.

"It is necessary to evaluate realistically what has been achieved without exaggerating or belittling (the achievements)," he added.

He also stressed the need for social justice in salaries and benefits under the Communist system — an apparent criticism of Andropov's drive to create greater material incentives to improve productivity in industry and agriculture.

## Three Vichy criminals finish jail terms

PARIS (AP). — Three men who collaborated with the Nazis during the occupation of France during World War II have been released from prison after serving 20-year terms. Justice Ministry sources revealed on Sunday night.

Two of the men originally had been sentenced to death on charges of killing, torturing, deporting and arresting French Resistance fighters during the Vichy collaboration government.

Those two were Jean Barbier, 64, known as the "Eichmann of Grenoble," and Jacques Vasseur, 63, who worked for the Gestapo in

the western French city of Angers. Both were released from Melun Prison south of Paris about five months ago, according to the sources, who requested anonymity.

Their death sentences were commuted to life prison terms in 1966 by then-president Charles de Gaulle. In 1970, former president Georges Pompidou reduced their life sentences to 20-year terms.

The third man, Albert Cortial, 64, was released at the end of 1982. Cortial was charged with handing over French Resistance fighters to Nazi officials in the city of Lyon.

## Post offices to close for hour this morning

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The country's post offices are to close for one hour this morning — from 8 to 9 — while workers hold meetings, the employees' union announced.

The postal workers have decided to hold the meetings in protest against what they call "parachuting workers from outside into senior positions, without holding internal tests for the jobs."

The workers say they will step up their actions, and might even declare a work dispute, if the communications minister does not meet their demands. Mail service was disrupted several times last month by the workers' intermittent actions in support of demands for higher pay.

## 6 hurt in highway crash

Six persons were injured yesterday in a three-car accident on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

The crash occurred a little after 7 a.m. near the Ein Hemed exit, when a car travelling toward Jerusalem swerved for unknown reasons across the highway and hit a car coming in the opposite direction.

The car that was struck spun around and hit a third car travelling behind it.

The six injured were taken to hospital by private vehicles. Four of them, including one who was seriously injured, were taken to Shaare Zedek Hospital. The two others were taken to Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem. (Itim)

## Basketball: Betar TA remains; Motzkin out

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Maccabi Tel Aviv, as expected, finished top of the National Basketball League, following the final round of regular league games last night. It is equal on points with Hapoel Ramat Gan, but starts top on averages in the play-off, involving the top eight teams.

By virtue of its victory over Maccabi Kiryat Motzkin, Betar Tel Aviv remains in the national league, while Kiryat Motzkin is relegated, together with Maccabi Daron Tel Aviv.

The results of the last round of league games are as follows: Hapoel Galil Elyon 98, Hapoel Holon 92; Betar Tel Aviv 72, Maccabi Kiryat Motzkin 62; Maccabi Ramat Gan 118, Hapoel Tel Aviv 84; Maccabi Tel Aviv 102, Hapoel Haifa 89; Hapoel Eilat 90, Maccabi Haifa 87; Hapoel Afula 99, Maccabi Daron Tel Aviv 83.

## INAUGURATION

A rabbinical court was inaugurated in Kiryat Arba yesterday in the presence of the two chief rabbis, Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu, and Minister of Religious Affairs Yosef Burg.



Miriam Eshkol, widow of the third prime minister of Israel, Levi Eshkol, yesterday attends a memorial ceremony on the 15th anniversary of his death. (Rahamim Israeli)

## 15th anniversary of Levi Eshkol's death

A memorial ceremony was held yesterday at Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl cemetery marking the 15th anniversary of the death of Israel's third prime minister, Levi Eshkol.

Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor represented the House and the government was represented by Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan, who was the only minister present.

Uzan, interviewed by Israel Television, said he was "astonished" that the president and the entire cabinet did not attend the ceremony.

Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres, former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, Knesset members, Jewish Agency leaders and Israeli Defence Forces generals also took part. IDF Chief Chaplain Gad Navon read a chapter of Psalms and the IDF cantor chanted the memorial prayer.

Eshkol's widow, Miriam, laid a wreath of roses on her husband's grave. Other wreaths were placed in the name of the president, the Knesset, the government, the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization and the Labour Party. (Itim)

## Orgad, Uzan fail to agree on cuts

Post Economic Reporter

A new effort by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orad and Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan to cut \$4 billion from the welfare budget failed to achieve results yesterday.

Although the Treasury asserted that progress was made, Uzan demanded Cohen-Orad keep his promise to the Tami Party to raise income tax thresholds and to increase child allowances. Cohen-Orad made this promise last month to ensure Tami's support for the coalition at the Knesset, but he has

not yet submitted the proposals to the Ministerial Economic Committee.

According to Treasury officials, Uzan proposed including the revenue from the tax on child allowances (recently approved by the Knesset Finance Committee) as part of the proposed cut.

The Treasury, on the other hand, insists that such revenue is part of a package proposed in August, and therefore should not be taken into account in the current round of slashes. The talks are to continue today.

## HUSSEIN

(Continued from Page One)

nian arms requests, as well as to discuss the proposed Jordanian rapid deployment force, which supposedly is to help pro-Western countries in the Gulf, such as Saudi Arabia.

To back up the need for additional U.S. weaponry, the senior official said Jordan faces major security challenges from Syria. He pointed to the Syrian efforts to invade Jordan in 1970 and 1980, calling Syria's "threats" against Jordan "very real... We are unequivocally on Jordan's side."

The president said the U.S. commitment to Jordan is "firm and unwavering."

For his part, Hussein called for a "just and lasting peace." Like Reagan, he spoke of new opportunities, but did not elaborate.

The senior U.S. official described the Reagan-Hussein session as "very good." He said Hussein "implicitly" reaffirmed support for UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Reagan peace plan.

Much of the discussion focused on events in Lebanon, but Hussein made a strong statement, according to the U.S. official, that the problems there are "diverting" U.S. attention from the broader peace process.

The U.S. official, when asked about Hussein's getting involved in the Reagan peace plan, said there had been "no change" in the king's attitude — nor had there been any dramatic change in U.S. policy.

Regarding Lebanon, Hussein was said to have warned against the dangers of partition.

The U.S. official, who could not be identified under the groundrules of the briefing, said the administration fully understands the complexity of the Palestinian question and that the problems in Lebanon are "a manifestation of it."

Asked whether the U.S. was responsive to Hussein's appeal for Palestinian self-determination, the U.S. official said that phrase has become a "code word" for the creation of an independent Palestinian state, "which we do not support."

According to the U.S. official, there was also a discussion between Reagan and Hussein about the recent Jordanian decision to reconvene the parliament in Amman. The official did not provide details other than to say that Hussein is "very concerned about developments on the West Bank."

Hussein made clear that any talks with Israel regarding the future of the West Bank would have to include "the land, not just the people."

Regarding the latest events in Lebanon, the official said Washington was encouraged that the Lebanese Sunni leadership, which just returned from Damascus, has not called for the overthrow of the Jemayel regime. The Americans are clearly still hoping that President Amn Jemayel might yet be able to keep some sort of coalition government together.

## Canadian status urged for Wallenberg

MONTREAL (AP). — B'nai B'rith Canada is urging the government to declare Raoul Wallenberg an honorary citizen in an effort to obtain more information from the Soviet Union about his fate.

The Swedish diplomat, credited with saving 100,000 Hungarian Jews from Nazi death camps during World War II, was made an honorary American in 1981, giving the U.S. the legal right to make inquiries into his whereabouts.

## KARP REPORT

(Continued from Page One)

Gaza, especially with the limited resources and manpower available. "The past defects are not proven, and now we have to see whether they can be corrected as a result of government decisions," he said.

Zamir said that the police had some 200 complaints in their files by Arabs against Jews, referring to land disputes which had led to allegations of assault including manslaughter. These complaints had not been investigated, he said, rebutting claims by the settlers and their supporters in the government that the Karp Report had made a fuss about half a dozen minor technical defects in investigations.

"There is a certain reality in the areas," he said. "Those who claim that everything is in order and is being serious. The police establishment has been frozen since 1968 since the days before Jewish settlers were there and before causes of friction existed. In the same period the number of policemen in Israel increased considerably."

Zamir said that the Council of Jewish Settlements had misquoted Interior Minister Yosef Burg and had shunted the argument in the wrong direction in its claim of politicization.

"Their calls for Yehudit-Karp to resign are baseless demagogues, and amount to a call to dispense with the law," Zamir said.

The committee meeting opened with a short statement by Defence Minister Moshe Arens which took the wind out of the sails of the opposition. Arens said there were defects in the application of law and order in Judea, Samaria and Gaza and that the government, which had asked for the Karp Report, had subsequently endorsed it.

"The report was drawn up in a most professional fashion, and we decided on certain measures on the strength of the report which should remedy the defects successfully," Arens said.

Later, after the session ended, Zamir described some of the settlers' arguments as "crude, unfounded and irresponsible."

He conceded that the settlers in Kiryat Arba received the impression from "a certain military source" that they could only be investigated by the military, and hence they need not cooperate with the civilian police. "Intervened, as a result of which certain military order was countermanded," he said.

The order, sent in the form of a military signal through the IDF telex network, was reportedly signed by the former OLC Command, Aluf Ori Orr.

Both Zamir and Karp told reporters that the settlers' demand of most complaints by Arab settlers "Jews on the grounds" they depended on an unreliable police officer was also unfounded. Each case in the report rests on documentation and not on the officer's word, they said.

In the discussion, Karp (Likud) and Edna Solomon (Alignment) were solidly behind Yoram Karp. When Michael Karp (Likud) tried to accuse the committee chairman of being biased, Karp told the committee chairman Eli Kuperman Kleiner over the knuckles.

Kulas told The Jerusalem Post later that most MKs who had implied that Justice Minister Moshe Nissim should not have held the Karp Report for so long.

Kulas said that government sessions so far were simply a statement of policy but now it was up to the Knesset to make sure that policy was translated into action and that more money and men were assigned to keeping order and preventing violence in the areas.

Interior Committee chairman Shoshana Arbeli said she was astonished that no other cabinet minister apart from Arens had been fit to back Karp publicly against the settlers' personal smears.

## W. Bank land sales draw death penalties

AMMAN (Reuters). — A Jordanian law court has sentenced 20 Arabs to death for selling land to Israel and ordering confiscation of all their property, the official Jordanian news agency Petra said yesterday.

The court acquitted three other people, Petra said.

It did not say when the group, including three women, was tried, but said the cabinet had approved the sentences. The 20 are from Tulkarm, Kalkilya and Nablus areas.

## Rare surgery gives baby new esophagus

KFAR SAYA (Itim). — A year-old boy recently received a new esophagus in a rare operation at Meir Hospital here, after he had swallowed some caustic soda that had burned his esophagus and left him unable to swallow.

Dr. Antonio Motovitz, chief of the children's surgery department, performed the procedure, which is considered one of the most complicated in pediatric surgery.

In a two-and-a-half-hour operation, Motovitz used a length of the baby's large intestine to replace the damaged esophagus. He made one incision on the stomach and a smaller one in the throat to attach the new esophagus.

The baby, who was brought to the hospital in serious condition, unable to eat or drink, has since fully recovered.

The operation was filmed by a foreign television network, and Motovitz has purchased a copy which he uses for teaching purposes.

A native of Prague, Motovitz came to Israel following the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. The doctor noted that he had successfully performed a similar operation last year and said it is unfortunate that many uninformed parents send their children abroad for such surgery, which is performed here just as competently and at much less expense.

**MASS**  
There will be a Mass tomorrow, Wednesday, February 15 at 6.30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, Jaffa, for the eternal peace of  
Technico Inspector FAP  
**Don JULIO DELGADO MESÍAS**  
**Señora ANGÉLICA MESÍAS DE DELGADO**  
one year after their much lamented death  
The Peruvian Embassy Air Attache offers his thanks in advance to those who participate in this act of worship

The World Federation of Jewish Community Centres  
mourns the death of  
**ALFRED-GAD WEICHSELBAUM**  
formerly responsible officer for Community Centres of German Jews

The Minister of Tourism  
The Director-General and Staff of the Ministry  
offer sympathy to  
Mrs. Tony Morgenstern  
National President of the Voluntary Tourist Service  
on the death of her husband  
**DAVID**  
To dear Tony and her family  
Our heartfelt condolences on the passing of their beloved  
**DAVID MORGENSTERN**  
Voluntary Tourist Service  
National Board and Member



## U.S. Jewish leaders study defence issues

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Foreign Ministry officials yesterday urged members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to lobby in Washington against the proposed sale of West German arms to Saudi Arabia and of sophisticated American arms to Jordan.

The officials briefed members of the conference in closed session on their first day of consultations since arriving on Sunday night.

Later in the morning they attended a session of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, chaired by Elisha Ben-Elissar. The two-hour session focused on Israel's predicament in Lebanon and the possibility of redeployment of its forces to more defensible lines.

While no decisions were taken, both the Israelis and the Americans agreed that joint consultations were helpful and that they should ideally be held every year or two. The Presidents' Conference, the roof body of 37 national Jewish organizations in the U.S., last met here in 1955. This is only the second time they have convened in Jerusalem since the conference was established in 1955.

Later they heard from former U.S. deputy foreign minister Yehuda

Ben-Meir, who told the American Jewish leaders that the Israeli government must admit that it did not succeed in establishing a "free Lebanon" by its invasion, even though there were a "few moments" when that appeared within Israel's grasp.

In the afternoon, they were briefed privately by various officials on relations between Israel and Latin America, as well as on the condition of Jews in distress in other countries.

Avi Primor of the division of African affairs of the Foreign Ministry told them that black African nations are interested in improving relations with Israel not only to obtain Israeli help, but primarily as a bridge to economic, military and political support from the U.S. Primor was optimistic that ties between Israel and Africa will improve.

Jewish Agency Executive chairman Arye Dulzin hosted a dinner for the Presidents' Conference last night.

Today the visitors will meet with a number of ministers, tour Jerusalem and confer with mayors of a number of development towns, followed by a dinner to be addressed by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. They are to leave Israel on Thursday night.

## Financial dispute endangers 70,000 chickens in moshav

By YITZHAK OKED  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Some 70,000 chickens in Moshav Tzafirim east of Kiryat Gat may starve to death because of a dispute between the moshav's *aguda* (central organization) and the regional moshav purchasing organization. This is the third moshav of the Inat Hamoshavim movement that is having financial problems because of the *aguda* not paying its debts.

The other two, Yeshia in the western Negev and Sde Moshe in the Lachish region face dissolution and expulsion by Inat Hamoshavim. But it is not yet clear whether Tzafirim has yet reached that stage.

One of the two secretaries of

Inat Hamoshavim, Efraim Shalom, explained to *The Jerusalem Post* that, although a financial crisis often brought things to a head in a moshav, the movement only dissolved and expelled moshavim for ideological reasons. A financial crisis in a moshav sometimes leads to members marketing their produce privately, and thereby avoiding their financial obligations to the *aguda*.

Shalom said that some 40 of the 400 moshavim in his movement were facing grave financial problems. He noted that it was difficult to "educate" veteran moshav members. "If the moshavnik has financial problems, all the ideology in the world will not help him," he remarked.

## Chickens fail to appear at demonstration

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

Three hundred angry farmers demonstrated outside the Ministry yesterday, but failed to keep their promise of freeing hundreds of chickens in front of the building.

The farmers were protesting against what they called the ministry's policy of importing cheap frozen beef, to the detriment of the local poultry market.

Ministry Director-General Yehoshua Forer told a delegation of demonstrators that the ministry does not encourage the consumption of beef. He added that a levy is imposed on the price of beef, but poultry prices are subsidized to encourage consumption.

Forer added that during the last few months there has been a 30 per cent drop in frozen beef consumption, and therefore there is no reason for protests.

## Ministry to implement Etzioni proposals

Jerusalem Post Reporter

During a discussion with officials of his ministry yesterday on cuts in the education budget, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer announced that 15,000 additional teaching hours will be added in the coming school year (at a cost of \$30 million at today's prices) in accordance with the Etzioni Commission recommendations.

The hours (and resulting extra pay) will be given to teachers who function as class educators, teachers who hold special jobs in schools such as department chairmen, and teachers who super-

vised recent graduates of teachers' colleges.

This was taken into account in planning the ministry's budget for the coming year. Hammer told his senior officials, as was the need for additional teaching hours to open new classes for the approximately 26,000 new pupils expected to start school in September.

The minister reiterated his intention to give the schools autonomy in deciding how to use the teaching hours allotted to them, with principals and teachers making their decisions on the basis of the particular needs of pupils in their school.

## No psychiatric tests for murder suspect

Jerusalem Post Reporter

District Court Judge Shmuel Jinkelman yesterday turned down a defence request that Avner Kol, charged with several murders and attempted murders, be placed under psychiatric observation.

Attorney Yair Gotan, representing Kol, made the request at the district attorney's office, fearing that Kol would use hospitalization as a possible escape route. When hospitalized, he was serving a sentence in Ramat Hashikma, Kol made such an escape attempt.

Kol is being held in police

custody until the end of his trial. Kol, 25, is an alleged member of the so-called Katamonim gang, which the police say is responsible for a series of gangland slayings and armed robberies in the capital.

The gang was broken up in early January. Kol's arrest, police said at the time, enabled them to arrest several other gang members, including Micha Aslan, suspected of several attempted murders and conspiracies to murder. Aslan has not been charged, but police sources yesterday said they will be passing their files to the district attorney's office "in the near future."

## Carmel Wines

Wine Growers Cooperative Rishon and Zichron Yaacov

## NOTICE

The company has stopped collecting deposits on bottles from February 10, 1984.

The firm undertakes to accept the return of empty bottles of its various products (for which a deposit has been paid), and to refund the deposit in full until April 30, 1984 inclusive.

The company will not accept the return of bottles of any type from May 1, 1984.

מורד אברהם



Murder suspect Yona Avrushmi (centre) at his remand hearing yesterday. (Elihu Harari)

## Dulzin: Restructuring WZO would 'cap' career

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Zionist Executive chairman Arye Dulzin is backing a proposal to set up an "autonomous movement" of Diaspora Jews who commit themselves to settling here within a specified time and granting it a set percentage of votes in World Zionist Organization institutions.

Dulzin told reporters in Jerusalem yesterday that the structure of the WZO is obsolete and irrelevant to mainline Diaspora Jewry. He added that if he succeeds in persuading the Zionist party representatives who control the WZO to change the system and give more power to future immigrants, that would "cap" his career.

Four regional committees will be set up in the U.S., South America, Europe and English-speaking countries outside the U.S. to prepare recommendations on reorganizing the Zionist movement. Last year three days of meetings were held at a Herzliya hotel on the same topic, which has been dubbed the "Herzliya Process." Dulzin

hopes for changes within two years.

Dulzin also called for democratization of the movement, in which Diaspora Jews will be able to join on a personal basis, rather than as members of Zionist parties or political movements. The failure to conduct elections for delegates to Zionist congresses in recent years is partly responsible for the movement's decline, he said.

Dulzin suggested that more should be demanded of members of the Zionist movement, with "minimum commandments" possibly including the study of Hebrew and Jewish education for their children.

The Jewish Agency board of governors will meet next week to discuss the agency budget and to vote on the candidacy of the person who will be nominated later this week by Herut-Hatzohar for chairmanship of the aliyah department. Dulzin endorsed the right of the agency board, as part of their "partnership" with the WZO, to have veto power over who will fill certain agency department chairmanships.

## Two years for deserter who earned M.A.

HAIFA (Him). — A Druse soldier

who deserted from the Israel Defence Forces twice to pursue his university studies, was yesterday sentenced in the district military court to two years in jail. His name was not released for publication.

The man first joined the army in 1977 within the framework of the academic reserve, but was called to active duty in 1980, as he did not reach the required standard. However, he absented himself for nine months during which he completed his B.A. in law at the Hebrew University.

At a disciplinary trial, the soldier got off with a warning. But shortly afterwards he again deserted — this time for a period of two years,

during which he completed his M.A. and worked for a Jerusalem attorney.

The man was only found out because he wanted to marry a Moslem girl and this caused a rift with his family. Police were called in during one of the violent family quarrels and they discovered who he was.

The court noted that the man preferred his private advancement to his military duty and also that he had taken advantage of the army's leniency regarding his first desertion. His two-year prison term will not be regarded as military service, and, after serving his term, he will have to complete his military service.

## World health meet to focus on local care

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel's system of providing even the most outlying settlements with medical care will be one of the main topics of the Fourth International Congress of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, Dr. Aviva Ron, chairman of the local organizing committee, said yesterday.

The congress, which will bring delegations from 40 countries or organizations, is to open in Tel Aviv on February 19 under the auspices of the Ministry of Health.

workers and veterinarians are expected from abroad, to be joined by 300 of their Israeli colleagues.

"Another main topic will be training primary health personnel," Ron said, pointing out that "there are vast parts of many countries, such as India, Bangladesh, etc., which do not even have a properly trained nurse." Studies done in Jordan, Egypt and the Gaza Strip will be presented.

The main theme is transferring the lessons learned in the developed

## Ofra group paying Avrushmi lawyer

By ROBERT ROSENBERG  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A group of residents from the West Bank settlement of Ofra are helping to pay for one of Yona Avrushmi's two lawyers in his trial for the murder of Peace Now activist Emil Grunzweig last February. Avrushmi had once been employed in a metal shop in Ofra.

Avrushmi was in Jerusalem District Court yesterday for a further remand hearing. Originally, the prosecution, which is headed by the Jerusalem District Attorney Asher Palgi, requested Judge Shmuel Finkleman to order Avrushmi held until the end of the trial — a standard request in murder cases.

But one of Avrushmi's lawyers, Yair Golan, requested a postponement in the remand hearing until he had a chance to review "thousands of pages" of evidence that the police gathered during the investigation.

Golan agreed to a 10-day remand

of his client, and the judge set the end of that period as the date for the proceedings regarding remand until the end of the trial.

Yesterday's short proceedings were marred by outbursts from Avrushmi, who despite his handcuffs was able to momentarily attack one of the many photographers in the corridor outside the courtroom.

The court was packed with family members, including his elderly parents, and his former wife, who carried their baby daughter. The baby's crying led to another Avrushmi outburst when the judge warned the mother that the baby must remain silent.

Also on the case, appointed by a group of Ofra residents to provide legal defence for Avrushmi, was Aharon Bruchin, who remained silent yesterday in court. Asked by *The Jerusalem Post* whether he was being paid by the Ofra group, Bruchin made no comment.

But *The Post* has learned from reliable sources that a man named Yehuda Etzion, representing the Ofra group, has been involved in providing funding for the Avrushmi case. Asked about Etzion, Bruchin refused to comment.

Golan indicated to *The Post* that his fees are being paid by the Avrushmi family.

Ya'acov Efroni, the original lawyer on the case, was not in court yesterday. He has complained to the Bar Association about Bruchin's "professional ethics," saying that Bruchin went into the case without consulting Efroni.

At least 56 prosecution witnesses are scheduled to appear at the trial, which is expected to begin at the end of March.

The key witness for the prosecution, Nissim Shengloff, who according to the indictment against Avrushmi sold the suspect the fatal grenade, was in protective custody yesterday.

## Study shows stunted growth among Beduin infants in Negev

By LIORA MORIEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Beduin infants often show markedly stunted growth, even though they suffered only mild malnutrition, according to a study by four researchers from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Medical School and one from the University of Rochester, New York.

The study, published last November in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, runs counter to the belief that such growth retardation occurs only in cases of prolonged severe malnutrition. Some 353 Beduin and 302 Jewish infants of under one year of age were studied, from October 1980 to

February 1981.

The Beduin group was chosen at random from three rural encampments within a 45-kilometre radius of Beersheba. All the Jewish infants were from Beersheba. The study found that "Beduin infants showed a progressive delay in weight, length and head-circumference growth when compared to either their Jewish counterparts or American standards" in the first year of life.

The study attributed the growth deficiency to three causes: Beduin mothers using available free health facilities less often than Jewish mothers; Beduin mothers breast-feeding longer, while their own diet is very poor; and Beduin infants suffering from more intestinal infections.

## Phone technician charged with bribery

HAIFA (Him). — A telephone

technician was charged in district court here on Sunday with accepting a bribe to transfer a telephone for a Haifa businessman.

According to the charge sheet, the businessman, who owns an import-export firm, applied in 1981 to the Communications Ministry to transfer the telephone from his old office to a new one. However, as of last November his request was still unanswered.

The charge sheet says the businessman then turned to the accused, Yechiel Bar-Lev, 38, of Kiryat Motzkin, who said he would transfer the telephone for \$1,000.

When the telephone was transferred last December, the businessman allegedly paid Bar-Lev \$500. The prosecution charges that Bar-Lev told the businessman that he had to pay part of the bribe money to those who helped transfer the telephone.

Last week Israel Television's *Kolbotek* programme exposed alleged bribe-taking by a Bezek technician for expediting the installation of a telephone in an insurance office in Tel Aviv.

The technician, Yisrael Zucker-

man, was arrested and ordered held pending completion of the police investigation. Yesterday Zuckerman's attorney filed a motion in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court to review his detention order, arguing that the publicity given his client and his continuing detention had caused defamation of his character and much suffering to his family.

The court is to review Zuckerman's detention at a hearing at the end of the week.

## Thieves steal passports of 48 kibbutz volunteers

NAHARIYA (Him). — The pas-

sports of 48 volunteers at nearby Kibbutz Sa'ar were stolen on Sunday night. The documents and some \$15,000 were kept in the kibbutz safe, which was taken away by the thieves.

Kibbutz members discovered the theft on Monday morning and called the police. No one has been arrested in the case so far.

BUS PATROL — Civil Guard volunteers throughout the country yesterday began riding buses to conduct security checks.

## City checking Shapira garage conversion

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Knesset Member Avraham Shapira turned the garage of his home on Rehov Stricker into a meeting room, without obtaining the required permit from city hall.

City Comptroller Shmuel Rubinek is now investigating how the garage was outfitted for residential use without a permit request being presented to the city. Shapira has a permit to use the ground floor of his three-storey house as a parking place only, and not for residential or office purposes, a city spokesman confirmed last week.

The former three-car garage in the Shapira home has been furnished with carpets, wallpaper, a table, chairs and books, and is used as a meeting room for Shapira's many guests, sources close to Shapira said yesterday.

Municipal building inspectors

and a representative of the comptroller came three times to check the changes made in the garage space, but were not allowed to enter the house. Shapira was not at home when they arrived. The house is guarded at all times.

Changing a garage into residential or office space requires the approval of the city's urban construction committee. Engineering Administration sources told *The Jerusalem Post*. The sources added that if the added space is of a certain size, then the regional construction commission's approval is required as well.

City inspectors discovered that the garage was being used for other purposes when they began examining Shapira's enclosure of the back of the house, which had been done without a building permit. The inspectors were sent to examine the glass enclosure following *The Post's*

investigation into the matter. The file on the house was then transferred to the comptroller's office for examination.

Sources close to Shapira confirmed that the former garage has been space used "as an office" for the past six months. The sources said that no building alterations had been made and said that what Shapira did within his own home was his business. Shapira was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Commenting on the city inspectors' visits, Shapira's spokesman said last night that nobody had been home at the time and the guard did not have a key to the house. "It is known that thieves sometimes pretend to be inspectors to gain access to houses," he said. He noted that a visit by the inspectors has been arranged for tomorrow or Thursday.

## SCULPTURES IN JERUSALEM

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## Brezhnev's one-time aide suspicious of innovation

## Old-fashioned ideologist takes over in Kremlin

By MARK WOOD

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Konstantin Chernenko, named yesterday as the new Soviet Communist Party leader, rose to prominence as a loyal aide to President Leonid Brezhnev and after his death seemed destined for political obscurity.

Chernenko, 72, of Siberian peasant stock, was Brezhnev's office manager and chief of staff for 20 years before he was promoted to full Politburo membership in 1978 and began a rapid ascent to become the leader's heir-apparent.

But after Brezhnev's death in November 1982 he lost the succession struggle to Yuri Andropov. In the following months he disappeared from sight and appeared to be losing his authority and influence in the Kremlin.

Chernenko, a squat, white-haired man with a chubbiness, round face, hunched back unexpectedly last summer when he appeared at the main speaker after Andropov at a Central Committee plenum and subsequently resumed a more prominent role.

"The impression is that Andropov was moving to downgrade him and ease him out, but that the powerful old guard in the party fought a rear-guard action to shore up his position," one western diplomat said.

Most analysts say Chernenko appeared to have become a symbol and rallying point for a cross-section of party and state officials who opposed Andropov's push for moderate reforms and a purge of long-serving administrators.

At 72 he is the oldest man to take power in the Soviet Union and like Andropov he has a record of poor health.

Last spring his office said he was off sick with a cold but informed Soviet sources said he was bedridden for three or four weeks with

pneumonia. Chernenko's speeches and writings have firmly conveyed the image of an old-fashioned ideologist suspicious of new ideas in economics or the arts and convinced that the present Soviet system is in no need of change.

He has relatively little experience of foreign affairs. But during the Brezhnev years, he was a staunch supporter of détente with the West.

In the introduction to a book to be published in Britain next month he returned to this theme, saying he wanted "a fruitful dialogue with nations living under a different system to ours, the United States and Great Britain in particular."

Of all the candidates to succeed Andropov, he was the only one with no experience of industrial management or regional administration. Almost his entire career has been as a party bureaucratic with a flair for organizational work.

"Chernenko is known as a man whose instinct is to say 'no' to innovation and to oppose anything that smacks to him of liberalism," one informed Soviet official said.

U.S. analyst Terry McNeill wrote that "his concept of government... seems to owe more to standard primers of ideological rectitude than to any practical understanding of the problems of running a country of the size and complexity of the Soviet Union."

When Chernenko lost out to Andropov, most western analysts said the party leadership appeared to have chosen the man with most intellect and talent. They predicted Chernenko's decline would be rapid in the absence of his patron, Brezhnev.

"But obviously he has been underrated to some extent. His skill seems to be in his proven ability to manage Kremlin business and probably to mediate well between different interest groups," one

western diplomat said.

Others said Chernenko may be no more than a suitable figurehead for a group of largely elderly party men who would hope to influence his leadership.

Chernenko has been a prolific writer on ideological affairs, producing books and articles of immense length that contrasted with the concise, clear-cut style of Andropov.

In his public appearances he has emerged as a poor speaker, frequently stumbling over the text and swallowing words.

His most recent major policy statement was a hard-line edict on culture issued at last June's plenum in which he condemned young Russians attracted to western music and ideas and denounced liberal trends in the cinema and theatre.

After his speech the authorities clamped down on western influences, closing discotheques, ordering rock groups to tone down their acts and forcing theatres to cut out more avant-garde productions.

Chernenko has always taken a strong political attitude to economic questions.

When commenting on the poor performance of Soviet agriculture in the late 1970s, he declared that what was needed was more organizational and ideological work in the countryside to instill the right attitudes in the peasantry.

He has also proved a conservative in his attitude towards internal party affairs. In a speech he gave on the nomination of Andropov as party chief, he warned the new leader to "observe respect for cadres," meaning no sackings.

Brezhnev became party leader in 1964 after ousting Nikita Khrushchev and put Chernenko in charge of the party general department, where he had control over Politburo business and party files. For 14 years his principal job was

organizing the agenda and working papers of the weekly Politburo meetings and arranging Brezhnev's working schedule.

He was made a full member of the Central Committee in 1971, was promoted to candidate (non-voting) membership of the Politburo in 1977 and full membership a year later.

Within three years Chernenko was regularly appearing at Brezhnev's side during meetings with foreign leaders and his position in Politburo line-ups showed he had leap-frogged over more senior colleagues to become one of the top four men.

The eclipse of his rival, Andrei Kirilenko, and death of chief ideologist Mikhail Suslov left Chernenko with the field clear for the succession until Andropov emerged as a powerful rival six months before Brezhnev's death.

Once Andropov was general secretary, Chernenko lost his post as head of the general department and took over Suslov's vacant post as chief ideologist.

Although Chernenko was presented as the official Kremlin No. 2 at the June 1983 Central Committee meeting, Andropov made clear on later occasions that he was not a favoured ally and certainly not being groomed for the succession.

At Andropov's last formal public appearance on August 16 last year, the Soviet leader was flanked by younger Politburo members Mikhail Gorbachev and Grigori Romanov, evidently his choice for future leadership, and Chernenko was seated some distance away.

It was only the day before Andropov's death that the first sign appeared that Chernenko's star was once again on the rise. The Communist Party daily *Pravda* devoted half a page to an article warmly praising a new edition of his articles.



Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviets' new Communist Party chief, is shown atop Lenin's Mausoleum where he, along with other members of the ruling Politburo, reviewed a military and workers parade through Red Square last November.

(UPI telephoto).

## Sports

## Sunshine smiles for U.S. skiers

SARAJEVO. — Debbie Armstrong and Christin Cooper landed giant slalom gold and silver for the U.S. as the glamour alpine ski programme made its belated start at the Winter Olympics yesterday.

Blizzards forced officials to revamp the entire ski schedule and Armstrong had the honour of taking the first crown of the slopes. Tamara McKinney went close to producing an American sweep of the medals but France's Perrine Pelen split them with a surprise third place.

Armstrong's success ended a disappointing 12-year spell in which U.S. skiers have failed to strike gold at Olympic level.

After days of bad weather and disruption of the Alpine schedule, the sun shone for Sarajevo

and for the American team, which had suffered cruel disappointments with the early elimination of their ice hockey team and the narrow defeat of the U.S. to the Soviet Union in the figure skating pairs.

The U.S. also had another gold medal in sight as Scott Hamilton won the compulsory portion of the men's figure skating competition.

Gunde Svann of Sweden won the grueling 15km cross-country race and took home the country's first medal in the event. He was the sixth Swede to win the Olympic title.

The honours of the day belong to Karin Enke, the East German speed skater who raced away with the 1,000 metres and won her second gold medal and her third medal overall. The 27-year-old Dresden student set another Olympic record when she finished in 1:21.61.

Enke's victory gave East Germany the overall lead in the medals battle with 14, six of them gold. The Soviets are second with 13, but only three of them are gold. (Reuters/AP).

## Lack lustre Israel good enough for 2-1

By PAUL KOHN  
Post Sports Reporter

Israel's National soccer team defeated the visiting Rumanian First Division club Arges 2-1 before a crowd of 3,000 in Eilat yesterday afternoon.

As the Israelis turned in a lacklustre first half performance, the visitors had control and deservedly went ahead through Sorka midway through the half. Half a dozen substitutions rejuvenated the national

team to some degree and their new-found second half dominance was soon translated into goals. Nissan Cohen converted a penalty after Vicky Peretz had been illegally impeded. A quarter-of-an-hour after the half Eli Yanni cracked home a fierce shot to register Israel's winner.

In the absence of Arye Haviv, banned for disciplinary reasons, Israel's star defender of the day was the 19-year-old Maccabi Patah Thra goalkeeper Ronnie Ginsberg who was making his national team debut.

## 76ers not down and out quite yet

NEW YORK (AP). — The Boston Celtics were licking their chops in anticipation of manhandling the crippled Philadelphia 76ers. Instead, it was the Celtics who were licked. With Julius Erving scoring 30 points and Andrew Toney adding 21, the 76ers rolled to a 109-91 victory over the Celtics in a showdown of National Basketball Association powers. Although they again played without Moses Malone and Bobby Jones, the 76ers stopped the Celtics, owners of the best record in the NBA, for only their third victory in the last nine games.

Boston's Cedric Maxwell, who was 2-for-8 from the floor and 1-for-7 from the foul line, summed up the Celtics' afternoon. "We really played stink, stink, stink," he said. Elsewhere, the Los Angeles Lakers trounced the Atlanta Hawks 106-87; the Utah Jazz slugged the Portland Trail Blazers 116-112; the Milwaukee Bucks turned back the San Diego Clippers 107-100 in overtime; and the New Jersey Nets dented the Houston Rockets 107-103.

EC ATLANTIC		W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	Philadelphia	12	18	.400	6 1/2
New York	New Jersey	30	19	.612	3
Washington		26	25	.510	9 1/2
		23	27	.460	12 1/2

EC CENTRAL		W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	Milwaukee	27	22	.551	—
Atlanta	Chicago	28	24	.538	1/2
Cleveland	Indiana	20	28	.417	6 1/2
		18	30	.367	9 1/2
		14	34	.292	12 1/2

WC MIDWEST		W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	Dallas	31	19	.620	—
San Antonio	Kansas City	22	30	.423	10
Houston	Phoenix	21	29	.420	11
Denver		20	31	.392	11 1/2
		20	31	.392	11 1/2

WC PACIFIC		W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	Portland	33	17	.660	—
San Diego	Seattle	32	21	.604	1/2
Phoenix	Golden State	26	27	.491	6 1/2
San Diego		22	30	.423	10
		17	34	.333	13 1/2

## Impressive entry for squash Open

By JACK LEON  
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Australian stars Glen Brumby and Ricky Hill are among the high-calibre overseas entry in Israel's second annual professional squash championships, which start on Sunday at the Herzliya Squash Centre. Both men were ranked between 15th and 20th in the world last year. In the late 1970's Brumby concurrently held the titles of world, Australian and British junior champion.

The February 19-26 tournament is promoted by the recently-formed Israel Squash Promotions and main sponsors are the Dan Hotels Corporation and Burger Ranch chain. Other participants from abroad will include South African international Richard O'Connell and Peter Symcox. English-born Brian Hoggan Mahjoub, former Rhodesian squash champion, and British international player Joyce Leach, English star Peter Vermo and Argentina's Smith will defend their respective 1983 open titles.

About 100 Israelis have also registered for the tournament, which, in addition to the open events for men and women includes men's doubles (over-35) and veterans' (over-45) events.

## Fencing triumph

Post Sports Staff

Israeli fencer Shlomo Eyal had a prestigious win when he took first place in the foil in an international tournament in London. A total of 84 fencers from 13 countries took part in the event.

## National swim record

Yohai Lipshitz, a 19-year-old soldier, shattered the Israeli national swimming record in the 800m freestyle in a gala in West Germany. Lipshitz, who swims for Hapoel Emek Yizre'el, clipped over five seconds off the four year record of Amir Ganiel when timing a creditable 8:17.67.

## Connors, Shriver take titles

MEMPHIS (AP). — Top-seeded Jimmy Connors successfully defended his U.S. national indoor tennis championship title with a hard-fought 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 victory over France's Henri Leconte here.

Connors, 31, boosted his number of indoor titles to a record seven. The victory was his first since last September's U.S. open and his 10th single title. It was worth \$25,000. Leconte, seeded 16th, earned \$12,000.

In Chicago, top-seeded Pam Shriver overcame a mid-match slump to down unseeded Barbara Potter 7-6 (7-4), 2-6, 6-3 for the championship of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims women's event.

ATHLETICS: Canadian Dave Steen beat world and Olympic decathlon champion Daley Thompson into second place in an indoor pentathlon in Toronto. Steen, 117 points behind the British champ going into the last event, secured victory by winning the 1,000 metres in two minutes 52.23 seconds, almost 18 seconds faster than Thompson who trailed home fourth.



After a surprise decision this week, British singer Elton John and his fiancée Renate Blauel hoped to marry in a Sydney church today, St. Valentine's Day. Australian legal requirements for a 30-day waiting period may delay the wedding, however.

(UPI telephoto)

## Thai gangs snatch children, force them to beg on streets

BANGKOK (Reuters). — A government-run welfare centre for handicapped children has asked for police protection because gangs are trying to abduct the youngsters and turn them into beggars, an official of the centre said yesterday.

Many gangs in and around Bangkok put severely handicapped children on the streets, with each earning about \$35 to \$40 a day, he told reporters.

Often ill-treated by the gangs, the children are forced to beg from

morning to night on pavements, at seaside resorts and at temple fairs, the official said.

He said one limbless 19-year-old girl, taken to the welfare centre by police after a recent crackdown on beggars, had been sold to a gang seven years ago by her impoverished parents and became a top earner.

She will now be cared for by the centre, which looks after about 250 children, the official said.

## Balkan states discuss nuclear-free zone

ATHENS (Reuters). — Five Balkan states begin a week-long meeting here yesterday in an effort to rid the Balkan peninsula of nuclear weapons.

Delegates from Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey will debate a proposal by Greek Prime Minister Andreas

Papandreu to turn the area into a nuclear-free zone.

The only Balkan country not taking part in the meeting is Albania.

Greece and Turkey are the only countries in the peninsula known to have nuclear arms on their territory as part of their commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

## Diana expecting

LONDON (AP). — Princess Diana, 22-year-old wife of Prince Charles, is expecting the couple's second child in late September, Buckingham Palace announced yesterday.

The baby will be third in line to the throne, after Charles, 35, and the couple's first child, Prince William, who was born on June 21, 1982.

## Man accused of flushing wife down toilet

HOBART, Tasmania (Reuters). — An Australian scientist was accused yesterday of killing his wife, cutting up her body and flushing pieces down a toilet.

Rory Thompson, 41, appearing in Hobart criminal court, pleaded not guilty to murdering his wife last September.

The prosecution said Thompson tried to dispose of the body by cutting it up and flushing it down a toilet. Parts were found in drains and the rest was unearthed from nearby hills.

The trial continues.

## Julio Cortazar, author dies at 69

PARIS (AP). — Argentine-born author Julio Cortazar, considered one of the greatest contemporary Latin American writers, died on Sunday of cancer at age 69, his family announced.

A political activist whose works often dealt with the subject of reincarnation, Cortazar left Argentina for France in 1951 in opposition to the Peron regime. He became a French citizen in 1981.

His best-known novels included *Rayuela* (Hopscotch) in 1963, *Los Premios* in 1964 and *Libro de Manuel* (The Book of Manuel) in 1973.

VISITOR. — Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia will make an official visit to Britain later this month.

## Gulf war escalates

## Iran launches offensive: 'Liberation of J'lem'

BAHRAIN. — Iran yesterday described its thrust into northeast Iraq as the start of a new offensive, as the latest flare-up in the Gulf war escalated further with both sides hammering each other's towns with artillery fire.

Iran's national news agency Irna said Sunday's capture of 110 square kilometres of Iraqi territory in the mountains of the northern front was the first stage of an operation code-named "Liberation of Jerusalem."

Baghdad has made no comment on the reported offensive since its official news agency INA quoted an Iraqi commander two days ago as denying an Iranian claim that its troops had thrust 15 km. into northern Iraq.

Irna, received in London, said Iranian troops had captured two heights in the Darbandi-Khan region, killing 78 Iraqi soldiers and seizing large amounts of arms and ammunition.

Baghdad has for weeks been forecasting a fresh attack, the first

major initiative in the ground fighting for some months, and Teheran newspapers have reported thousands of volunteers heading for the front to deliver "the final blow" against Iraq.

Both sides, meanwhile, continued to pound towns near their border with heavy artillery in a further escalation of the exchanges prompted by Saturday's Iraqi missile attack on the Iranian city of Dezful.

Teheran Radio said the southern Iranian cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr came under intense shelling throughout Sunday night and yesterday, while Baghdad Radio quoted a military spokesman as saying Basra in the south and the central border towns of Mandali, Khormal and Khanaqin had been bombed.

Meanwhile at the UN, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar offered to send a mission to Iran and Iraq to investigate charges that each side attacked civilian targets during their prolonged war. (Reuters, AP).

## Black pupil dies during clash with police in South Africa

PRETORIA (Reuters). — A 15-year-old girl died and eight people were taken to hospital when pupils boycotting their schools in the black township of Attteridgeville clashed with police yesterday, a hospital spokesman said.

He said the cause of the girl's death was not known. The others were admitted to hospital suffering from the effects of tear gas.

A police spokesman said police vehicles were stoned in the township west of Pretoria, but he had no further details.



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICANS AND CANADIANS IN ISRAEL

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Due to capacity registration for the National Convention at Kfar Maccabiah on Wednesday and Thursday, February 15 and 16

Reservations Have Been Closed

for meals, sessions and overnight accommodation.

Israel Lands Administration — Tel Aviv District

## Offer for Lease of Plot for Construction of 6 Row Cottages in Ramat Aviv Gimmel

Tender No. TA/83/108

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids for a development contract for the plot, details of which at the time of publication of the tender, were as follows:

Block	Parcel portions	Plots	Approx. area (sq.m.)	Municipal building plan	Minimum price (IS)	Deposit (IS)
6631	24,113,118	114,115	1831	1864	58,585.682	3,000,000

In accordance with the municipal building plan, construction potential is 2 floors, 130 sq.m. (gross) average per housing unit for row construction. Building permit will be provided in accordance with architectural plan data. Details, sample contracts, bid forms and plan data are available at our Tel Aviv district office, 116 Derech Petah Tikva during regular working hours.

Deadline for submitting tender bids is 12 noon on March 16, 1984.

Bids not in the tenders mailbox by the above time for any reason whatsoever, will not be considered. The Israel Lands Administration does not undertake to accept the highest or any other bid.

Tel Aviv District

## Offer for Lease of Plot for Construction of 18 Housing Units in Tel Aviv

Tender No. TA/83/107

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids for a development contract for the area, details of which at the time of publication of the tender were as follows:

Block	Parcel	Approx. area (sq.m.)	Minimum price (IS)	Deposit (IS)
6464	35	2066	28,778.593	1,400,000

In accordance with Municipal Building Plan 2111, permitted construction on the plot will be for 3 floors above an open parking floor, and for 18 housing units, each on 85 sq.m. area, and for a total of 1530 sq.m. Details, sample contracts, and bid forms are available at our Tel Aviv district office, 116 Derech Petah Tikva during regular working hours.

Deadline for submitting tender bids is 12 noon on March 16, 1984.

Bids not in the tenders mailbox by the above time for any reason whatsoever, will not be considered. The Israel Lands Administration does not undertake to accept the highest or any other bid.

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# Context

"BEWARE the Ides of March!" Minister without Portfolio Sara Doron told *The Post* with cryptic humor in the Knesset last week. Queried as to what she meant in this day and age, Doron said: "Go ask Tami."

The *Post* accordingly accosted the Tami leader, Aharon Abuhatzira, who explained: "March is budget month in the Knesset, and that's when Tami will finally know whether the commitments made it by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad in late January about benefits for low-income families, are to be fulfilled."

Abuhatzira told me: "The minister's letter to Tami was phrased in general terms, but we have a precise record of what he promised us verbally, so that there won't be any mistake."

The Tami leader claimed: "Cohen-Orgad wanted to put the complete agreement down in writing in every detail. I had to give him political counsel, and advise him not to do that, because it would not be to his advantage. He accepted my advice, knowing my long political experience."

Abuhatzira said he had got renewed assurances recently that the minimum wage law would now get rapid parliamentary processing. "Apart from low-paid employees in the private sector, this will also affect thousands of civil servants," he said. "Naturally it will cost the Treasury money. It's not a mere gesture."

ON A SECOND Tami demand, the raising of the income tax floor and the re-adjustment of the tax brackets above that floor, Abuhatzira said: "The minister told me it was 'reasonable' to raise the tax floor 100 per cent. We see no reason why an employee earning only 153,200 gross should pay any income tax at all."

He said that Tami wants the lower-income sectors to pay income tax above that floor in ascending brackets of 20, 30 and 40 per cent. But the higher income sectors would continue to pay tax in ascending brackets of 25, 35, 45, 50, 60 and 66 per cent. Abuhatzira is not deterred, just because this parallel system sounds complicated. Tami's third and final demand is for children's allowances from the National Insurance Institute to be readjusted upwards to the five per cent of the average wage in the

MK AHARON ABUHATZEIRA talks about his party's economic demands with *Post* Knesset Correspondent ASHER WALLFISH.

## TAMI'S STAND



Tami leader Aharon Abuhatzira: "I believe the public is basically intelligent enough to judge a party by what it does, and not by what it says." (Zoom 77)

economy which they were worth in 1977 (before the Likud came to power). "Now the allowances are worth only 2.7 per cent of the average wage," he noted.

THE SOOTHSAVERS threat about the Ides of March does not apply as much to the three Tami demands themselves, as to the fact that Tami wants the demands met, commencing April 1, 1984, and not next year. "But, mind you, I don't threaten," the Tami leader stated. "Let me just say that if anybody doesn't want to carry out the commitments made to us, then it's his problem."

Abuhatzira exudes confidence with regard to his party's alter-

natives, should the commitments about low-income families not be met.

"Let's forget about an alternative government headed by Labour. That's quite unrealistic. Let's merely consider new elections, either early or on the due date next year," he said.

"I'll tell you a secret," he said, in a low and hardly audible voice. "Not only did the public opinion polls before the 1981 elections give us zero Knesset seats; my own private polls also gave me zero seats. Then, finally, 24 hours before the elections, my private poll gave us one seat. We still got three."

He had an explanation. "The sort of citizen who votes Tami is hard to

get hold of, in the telephone polls often conducted here."

Since his party's aggressive campaign on behalf of the low-income earners, he noted, two public opinion polls have already given Tami four seats in the next Knesset. "The experts also say that on election day when it comes to the crunch this number could go up four-fold. I know it will go up but I wouldn't predict now, in what proportion," he said.

Abuhatzira said: "I believe the public is basically intelligent enough to judge a party by what it does, and not by what it says."

He fished out of his pocket a letter from the works committee of the Elite chocolate factory. "They all signed it," he said. "They wrote that they gave me every support in my bid to raise the minimum wage and change the tax brackets. I got many letters like that lately."

THE Tami leader had another reason for his confidence. "If the Treasury keeps its commitments and we stay in the coalition, the public will know whom to back. If the Treasury reneges and we quit, the public will still be behind us. It's a heads we win — tails you lose situation, politically."

Abuhatzira has a rider to this. "The majority party in power always has an extra advantage, of distributing material benefits to sway election results. It happened last time and it happened often before that. Against that, we have to offer our credibility."

"We happen to be fortunate because, the Likud's economic policies, which have made people poorer, have played into our hands and given us lots of political ammunition. Tami would have had a much harder job, if the Likud would have showed some political common-sense."

Lowering his voice once more, the Tami leader said: "I'll tell you something else. Yoram Aridor was a political economist. He would never have made the wage-earners so furious, and made things so easy for my party."

But Cohen-Orgad is a theoretical economist, and he doesn't know what makes the Histadrut tick, like Aridor does. Theoreticians like him won't find it so easy to solve Israel's economic problems."

The writer is The Jerusalem Post Knesset correspondent.



Inhabitants of the Ein Hatzeva serpentarium

(Liora Moriel)

## For the love of snakes

By LIORA MORIEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ARIEL ULLMANN loves snakes and is doing his best to spread the good word. Last fall, he opened a serpentarium in Ein Hatzeva, the first truck stop on the Arava road going south. He hopes to assemble snakes from all the world's deserts (Israel, Africa, America and Australia) as well as desert lizards and such arachnids as scorpions and spiders.

"I've been interested in snakes and reptiles since I was 16," says Ariel, now 25. "We had a garden near our house in Kiryat Bialik when I was growing up, where we had many animals. I knew I'd grow up to be a zoologist or something like that. No question about it."

In 1977, before going to the army, Ariel set up an exhibition on reptiles in Haifa's biological-pedagogical institute. After the army, he sought a place that would be a tourist attraction and warm (the reptiles are cold-blooded animals whose temperature depends on that of their environment), "so I decided to go down to the Arava."

The people of Ein Hatzeva, who already own a gas station and a restaurant near the strategic Arava road, were interested in the new project and gave Ariel the space and help he needed to set up his serpentarium.

His serpentarium has become "a farm for growing desert snakes." His entire collection is the result of trading with other snake owners around the world.

THE SNAKES on view are either in huge bell jars or in oblong glass cages. Some are in larger cages, and some in open pits. The pits are deep and the edges are too smooth for the snakes to crawl up.

"The emphasis is on showing them in their natural environment. The exhibition is supplemented with explanations in Hebrew and in English, as well as interesting facts and passages."

The snakes are poison-free — snake venom is a valuable commodity. Ariel milks the poison and sells it to physicians in Israel and abroad. "The venom is used to make a serum for snake bites, and is also good against blood clots."

In the future, Ariel hopes to set up teaching programmes based on his research. "We already give free advice on growing snakes for fun and solve problems of keeping them happy in captivity."

Unless a person has "special sensitivity" to snake bites, they are not fatal with proper care. "When the

need arises, I identify the specific snake that bit someone, anywhere in Israel."

Israel has eight varieties of venomous snakes: the Palestine viper, the Hermon viper, the horn viper, the adder, the large and small sand-horn viper (which has no horns in Israel), the mool viper and the black desert snake ("these are the cobra's cousin").

But 75 per cent of snakes are not poisonous and, at any rate, they are not in the habit of attacking humans. Left alone, they will not attack.

What must the snake-bitten person do, if he inadvertently disturbed the crawling cold-blooded animal?

"There are still differences of opinion on the subject among doctors about first aid, but there is agreement on the fact that treatments like cutting and obstructing the wounded area must not be done without medical supervision. It is important to get to a hospital quickly, but not by running because moving unnecessarily facilitates blood circulation. The wound can then be splinted to avoid edema."

Identifying the culprit is important because the serums used against viper and adder bites are different.

What are snakes like as household pets? "A real relationship cannot arise between the snake and the keeper because of the low intelligence of reptiles in general and of snakes in particular," Ariel says.

## A most positive impression

### MUSIC

Do it. HADARI, guest-conductor with Boris Gurevich, piano (Ran Oren, trumpet (Gerard Behar Cultural Centre, Jerusalem, February 11). Back: Brandenburg Concerto No. 1; Shostakovich: Piano Concerto No. 1; Copland: "Quiet City" (1939); Mozart: Symphony No. 25, K. 206.

IT WAS MORE out of curiosity as to how this semi-professional ensemble would tackle this ambitious programme rather than mere duty to attend another concert, that I went to the Gerard Behar Centre to listen to the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra.

It seems that the strings have improved their collective sound, technical facility and precision far beyond their previous achievement, which was already quite impressive. The wind section — three oboes, a bassoon, and two horns for the Bach — provided particularly good qualities, with special kudos to the horn-players who faced their enormously difficult and exhausting parts with great stamina, well-blended dynamics and near flawless execution.

Guest soloist Boris Gurevich attacked the piano in the Shostakovich concerto with great enthusiasm, displaying enormous brachial strength and digital brilliance balanced with softer emotionalism in the slow movement. Ram Oren (assistant principal trumpet of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra) added the most humorous trumpet calls faultlessly. It was a somewhat elegant tone. This was also apparent in the following Copland, where a more ringing sonority would have been an asset — in particular as it is played by the English horn, with its warm voice and soulful character.

Conductor Omri Hadari with his lively directions generated alert playing throughout and effortlessly achieved good results. A pity, that in the Mozart symphony he displayed the same attitude prevalent among all the young conductors nowadays: too quick tempo in outer movements — it is Allegro-moderato in the first, and the Allegro con spirito in the finale surely refers to the spirit of the music and not to exaggerated speed. Accents were

hammered out unmercifully, without consideration for the general mood of the symphony.

On the other hand, there were some lovely singing phrases in the Andante, proving that Hadari is no mere technician. Hopefully, with growing maturity he will reevaluate his approach to the classics and then will give us this music with more love and understanding.

All in all this concert left us with a most positive impression of the guest conductor and full appreciation of the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra's maintained standards of high quality.

YOHANAN BOEHM

HAIFA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Stanley Sperber conducting, with Samuel Simons, horn; Gideon Lahan, oboe; Yigal Cohen, clarinet; Elia Desivila, bassoon; Grigori Bukin, horn (Afula Auditorium, February 8). AB-Mozart programme: Overture to "The Magic Flute," K. 620; Concerto No. 4 in E Flat Major for Horn and Orchestra, K. 495; Sinfonia Concertante in E Flat Major for wind instruments and orchestra; Symphony No. 23 in B Flat Major.

THE CONCERT HALL of the recently-built Afula Auditorium is both an elegant and cosy place, it has 650 seats and good acoustics.

Stanley Sperber chose to open this all-Mozart evening with biographic details of Mozart the Wunderkind and explanations of the choices. It is questionable whether this procedure is necessary before a presentation of conventional works at a regular concert.

All the soloists were orchestra members. Samuel Simons gave the technically demanding horn concerto an accurate reading that somehow lacked in variety of dynamics.

The Sinfonia Concertante is more of a quartet with orchestral accompaniment. There was not enough unanimity of approach in teamwork of the soloists. Gideon Lahan played the leading part with clarity and nuance. Yigal Cohen's tone was melodious, but Elia Desivila lacked in sonority, and Grigori Bukin's playing

emerged occasionally unclear, which impeded the dialogues among themselves and with the accompaniment of the orchestra.

Stanley Sperber directed the orchestra with a great deal of affability. The result was a smooth, relaxed playing that was sometimes lacking in drive and occasionally even in synchronization.

The symphony received an elegant, enjoyable performance ending the evening on a light mood.

ESTHER REUTER

NEW FACES: Assaf Zohar, pianist, Ilana Liberman, soprano, with Paul Zolpi at the keyboard (Tel Aviv Museum, February 7). JS. Bach: Prelude and Fugue in F Minor; Mozart: Sonata in A Minor K.310; Schumann: Fantasy in C Major; Rachmaninov: 3 songs; Mussorgsky: three songs from "The Nursery," Puccini: arias from "La Bohème" and "Madama Butterfly."

HAVING LISTENED to Assaf Zohar, regrettably, I must air serious doubts. Though Zohar has recently won a local competition his performance cannot be described as promising. His Mozart sonata offered nothing really meaningful.

Creating apparently an impression of objectivity, the performance not only lacked warmth and musicality but actually displayed ignorance of all artistic qualities. Zohar simply seemed to bypass everything.

Schumann was even farther beyond the pianist's reach. Zohar could neither cope with form nor with the musical content. *Fortissimo* does not mean an emotional climax and neither does *piano* mean heartiness and expression or feeling. But this merely means mentioning one of the many things missing. In effect, one can hardly describe the limitless richness of Schumann's work so countless are its ideas and musical metaphors. Had Zohar been able to account for only a fraction of all this, his performance could perhaps have constituted some kind of accomplishment. Nothing however of that kind happened.

Neither did Miss Lissensky contribute anything really enjoyable to the evening. She undoubtedly possesses a voice of considerable

strength but its timbre is harsh and lacks even the slightest refinement. All three composers sounded alike without any modulation of voice or change of interpretative approach. In fact there almost was no interpretation at all. Voice could serve a musical purpose and not be ejected as mere sound.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

"FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE...": Youth Concert, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Arieh Vardi, presenting and conducting Music by Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich and Prokofiev (Jerusalem Theatre, February 9). Sponsored by the Adolf & Alfred Eder Foundation.

THE SERIES of four youth and family concerts entitled, not too originally, "A Tune Goes Round The World..." by the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra has got underway. Anything is commendable, if it can lure young people into the concert hall to listen to music different from the sort of thing our radio is constantly pouring out. Regrettably, however, the teenagers to whom these programmes are specifically geared do not come.

At this concert, there were parents, who seemed to enjoy the presentations very much, and pre-teen groups who appeared mostly disinterested, if not totally bored.

Arieh Vardi's commentary was well thought out, his demonstration of orchestral instrumentation throwing light onto the complex apparatus assembled on stage. His delivery was pleasant and instructive. He would be well advised, however, to leave direction of the orchestra to professionals who could achieve a better response from the musicians. They need a more decisive conductor to lead them.

In the Shostakovich excerpt, young Daniel Gortler performed the piano part impressively and with great self-confidence, with Kenneth Cox cooperating excellently and humorously competing with the piano in the trumpet solos.

The programme — parts of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker" Suite, the last two movements of the Shostakovich Concerto, and Prokofiev's "Lieutenant Kije" (excerpts) — was well chosen and provided Vardi with a lot of educational material which he exploited to the fullest.

YOHANAN BOEHM

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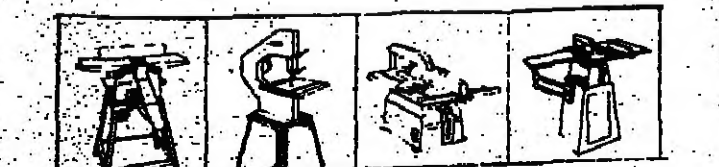
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## THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

The Jerusalem School of Business Administration sponsored by the Israel Discount Bank

invite the public to the 1984 Israel Gal-Edd Memorial Lecture and Awards Ceremony (on the 7th anniversary of his death)

Speaker: Mr. STEF WERTHEIMER  
Topic: Israel in 1984 — Policies for Industrial Development (in Hebrew)  
The meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 22, 1984 at 6 p.m. at Beit Maierdorf, the Hebrew University (Mt. Scopus campus) Jerusalem. Please confirm participation to Tel. 02-683235, 02-683434.



## Having an overdraft costs more than just interest

By MACABEE DEAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The average family pays between IS192 and IS198 a month for all regular banking fees if it has a positive balance during the entire month; but these fees will more than double, and jump to IS447-IS477, if the account has an overdraft.

These calculations were made yesterday by officials at the Discount Bank Group.

They are based on the average family carrying out the following transactions: four transfers from a checking account to a savings scheme or provident fund, which will be provided free; six standing orders (to pay electricity, telephone and water bills), at IS3 each (for a total of IS18); and eight withdrawals from an automatic teller at IS3

each (for a total of IS24). Also included in the calculation are 15 cheques (which will cost IS6 for each transaction plus IS4.80 for each cheque, for a total of IS162); using a credit card eight times (which will cost a total of IS6 or IS12 depending if a Diners or Visa card is used), and two transfers to the bank customer from National Insurance or from his employer, at IS6 each (for a total of IS12).

All these transactions add up to between IS222 and IS238. But since each customer receives a IS6 credit for the first five transactions he makes if his account has a positive balance, the actual total is between IS192 and IS198.

The cost of all the above transactions more than doubles if the account has an overdraft. Moreover, the five credits of IS6 each are not granted if the account is overdrawn.

## Banks expand scope of their on-line automatic teller

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The first step towards the total integration of all automatic teller machines in the country was taken yesterday when the different bank systems allowed withdrawals (up to IS4,000) from any teller — as long as it was "on-line."

Being "on-line" means that the automatic teller is connected to the bank's central computer, rather than only to the computer of the local branch where it is located. The "on-line" teller is thus in a position to give the customer immediately his up-to-the-minute balance. A teller that is "off line" is unable to do this.

Making all automatic "on-line" depends on the availability of telephone lines. The "on-line" restriction is necessary to prevent a person from withdrawing money several times from different banks on the same day.

Other steps which will gradually be introduced will allow deposits to be made and bills to be paid.

Another restriction is that any clarification regarding a withdrawal must be made at the bank where a person has his account, and not at the bank where the money was withdrawn.

At present, there are 486 automatic tellers in the country. About half of them are "on line."

There are two main networks, the Discount-Leumi, which has 210 Caspomat machines, and the Hapoalim-Mizrahi-First International. Hapoalim has 139 Bank-Kat automatic tellers. Mizrahi has 53 Sion tellers, and First International has 41.

In addition, there are 43 tellers belonging to the Shaba system, which are located in public places, such as the Shekhem stores. They permit withdrawals by any person belonging to one of the five banking networks mentioned above.

## Community lends \$34m. for Egyptian power plant

BRUSSELS (Reuters). — The European Community is to lend about \$34 million to help link an Egyptian gas-fueled power station to the national electricity grid.

The cash would help to install more than 150 km. of power lines and build sub-stations for the 900-megawatt Shoubra El-Kheima power plant north of Cairo.

## Shlomo Peleg general manager of Koor Chemicals

Tel Aviv. — Shlomo Peleg, at present general manager of Tambour Paints, has been appointed general manager of Koor Chemicals. He will take up his new post shortly.

The present head of Koor Chemicals, Zvi Zur, has been appointed chairman of the board of Koor Chemicals.



Fourteen representatives of the largest travel agencies in South Korea are shown on their arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday. Flying from Paris with El Al, the agents will examine tourist facilities here. (Ya'acov Katz)

## Search for ways to attract tourists

By HAIM SHAPIRO  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Tourism Minister Avraham Shariar yesterday appointed a staff committee to study ways of making the Israel Government Tourist Offices abroad more effective within the present budgetary limits.

The committee will evaluate ways of improving the work of the offices, without, however, increasing

the work force. It will also study the geographical location of the offices, taking into account all demographic factors and the proximity of take-off points for flights to Israel. The possibility of moving some offices to places where they could do more good will be discussed.

Meanwhile, the ministry has announced that whatever other cuts are made, the budgets of the offices abroad would not be reduced.

## Chamber of Commerce distributes book on: 'Doing business in Israel'

By MACABEE DEAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A 200-page book, *Doing Business with Israel*, which presents a wealth of background articles and statistical material, has just been published by the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce. It was edited by Zvi Segal, with the help of A. Efrati and B. Pintow.

Some 4,000 copies have been printed. About 3,000 will be distributed free to commercial counselors, at Israeli embassies, and to bi-national chambers of commerce, while the rest will be distributed within the country. Individual copies cost the equivalent of \$15.

The book deals with various aspects of importing into Israel — labelling, the prevention of dumping, computation of duties and documentation. It also deals with exporting from Israel, the agreement with the Common Market and the General System of Preferences, for instance.

There are several shortcomings in the book. Sometimes the figures are

given in shekels — which is meaningless to a non-Israeli — and much of the statistical data is not updated.

However, these defects are compensated for by the overall view the articles afford and by the "trends" pointed out.

For example, Israel has more men than women in the "marriageable" age groups, but this changes in the older groups where women outnumber men.

Another interesting fact is that while 27.2 per cent of all employees worked in industry in 1970, the percentage dropped to 25.6 per cent in 1981. But people working in public services increased from 30.9 per cent in 1970 to 36.6 per cent in 1981.

PVC EXPORTS. — The Kfarit plant in Kibbutz Kfar Aza, which makes PVC compounds, is trying to increase its exports since it expects local sales to fall from \$10 million last year to only \$8m. this year. Its products are used mainly in the construction industry.

## AIRLINE BRIEFS

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

OPERATING a scheduled airline in Europe costs twice as much as in the U.S., according to data prepared by the International Air Transport Association.

This is partly because of military and political considerations, which sometimes require planes to take round-about routes, rather than letting them fly directly from one city to another.

Moreover, fuel is 145 per cent more expensive, maintenance and repairs cost 176 per cent more and ground handling is 190 per cent dearer. Flight personnel costs 210 per cent more and sales commissions are 276 per cent higher. Finally, route and landing charges are 500 per cent higher in Europe than in the U.S.

Route and landing fees are so expensive that Lufthansa reckons they cost more than fuel. These fees account for 23 per cent of the line's operating costs, while fuel is only 18 per cent.

MAOF reckons that only 15 per cent of its passengers smoke now, compared with 30 per cent two years ago.

The number of smokers nevertheless fluctuates between one flight and another, so the airline has arranged for a moveable line between the smoking and non-smoking sections. MAOF begins seating its non-smokers from the first row back and its smokers from the last row forward. The dividing line which is finally established is marked by moveable signs.

SAS and Lufthansa have agreed to offer reductions of up to 65 per cent on round-trip tickets between Germany and Scandinavia this summer.

SWISSAIR's 50 planes last year flew more than seven million passengers, the airline reports. This reflects a meagre 0.1 per cent rise compared with 1982, but passengers usually fly to more distant places. On the average, 63.7 per cent of the seats were taken compared with 63.3 per cent in the previous year.

WESTERN AIRLINES has opened a sales office in Israel, headed by Arieh Schofield.

## WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at IS457 per line including VAT, insertion every day of the month costs IS8579 (including VAT, per month). Copy accepted: offices of The Jerusalem Post and all recognized advertising agents.

Jerusalem Museums. Opening Exhibitions (14.2. at 8 p.m.): Joseph Zaritsky, Oil Paintings and Aquarelles (done at age 92). Continuing Exhibitions: David Schmeier, Posters and Advertisements. Hebron, 45 years of design. Art looks at Art. Dr. Erich Salomon, From a Photographer's Life. Yossef Cohen, Our Town, photographs (until 16.2). Ori Reisman, paintings. Scenic, home theatre sets and

sculpture. Haring Peter O'Toole, Peter Strauss and Anthony Quayle. 22.50 Paul Ben Haim — portrait of the famous, late Israeli composer. 24.00 News. JORDAN TV (unofficial): 17.40 Cartoons. 18.00 French Hour. 18.30 (JTV) 3 Science film. 18.45 Target. 19.00 News in French. 19.30 News in Hebrew. 19.45 Magazine Zero One. 20.00 News in Arabic. 20.30 Barney Miller. 21.10 The Jewel in the Crown. 23.00 News in English. 22.15 Play of the Week. MIDDLE EAST TV (in North only): 13.00 Shape-Up. 13.30 Westbrook Hospital. 14.00 Another Life. 14.30 700 Club. 15.00 Afternoon Movie. 16.30 Spiderman. 17.00 Popeye. 17.30 Flying House. 18.00 Laramie. 19.00 Bonanza. 20.00 Another Life. 20.30 World News Tonight. 21.00 Winter Olympics — Alpine Skiing. Ice Hockey: Luge.

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Adar 11, 5744 • Jamadi Awwal 11, 1404

## Paranoid syndrome

THE HEADS of state of two Arab countries friendly to the U.S., Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein, are in Washington now, whether by design or — as the Egyptians insist — by sheer coincidence.

Should the prospect of this tripartite meeting disturb Israel? Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir apparently believes that it should. Speaking to young Herut activists on Sunday night, he went out of his way to warn that "no discussion on peace can be complete without the participation of Israel and without taking account of Israel's views and aspirations for peace and security."

This was by all odds a bizarre reaction to the news from Washington. Surely today's White House meeting cannot be considered as a diplomatic summit from which Israel is being deliberately excluded.

Does Mr. Shamir really believe that he can impose his veto on Mr. Reagan meeting with more than one Arab leader at a time?

It would not derogate from Israel's sovereignty to concede to the U.S. the right to consult with its Arab friends without soliciting this country's prior approval, and without inviting its participation. If corrective action turns out to be necessary in the wake of such consultation, it could be taken through the established machinery of American-Israeli cooperation.

Israel, Mr. Shamir told the young Herut activists, stands "ready now as always" to resume negotiations "on the basis of the only realistic plan — Camp David." But Israel cleaves to its own interpretation of Camp David, which in effect rules out any option save that of ultimate annexation of the occupied territories. This interpretation is unacceptable to the U.S., which helped bring the Camp David accords into being, to Egypt, which (despite reports to the contrary) remains formally committed to them, and to Jordan, which might in certain conditions adhere to them.

Mr. Shamir perhaps fears that the U.S., Egypt and Jordan may yet agree to set a diplomatic process in motion based on the American version of Camp David that goes by the name of the Reagan initiative. The fact that this is a presidential election year in the U.S. could goad Mr. Reagan to greater diplomatic activity for peace in the Middle East rather than cause him to desist from it, as Mr. Shamir may have expected.

Judging from the premier's remarks, this is what causes him anxiety. Given the splendid circumstances, political and economic, to which Mr. Shamir and his party's policies have steered the nation, this is an anxiety that need not be universally shared.

## Kremlin's Old Guard

THE OLD GUARD is alive and thriving in Moscow. Now it has elected its candidate, Konstantin Chernenko, to the post of secretary-general of the Soviet Communist Party, in succession to Yuri Andropov.

Mr. Chernenko represents the Old Guard not only because he is 72. After all, his predecessor was close to 69 when he won the post as a candidate of a so-called reformist — or, better, pragmatist — faction against the same Konstantin Chernenko in November 1982, after the death of Leonid Brezhnev. The new Soviet leader represents the Old Guard because he is an old-fashioned ideologist, suspicious of new ideas and convinced that the present Soviet system is in need of no change.

His election reassures all those within the Soviet bureaucracy who want to keep things as they are, and who dreaded even the moderate economic and administrative reforms Andropov, the former KGB chief, tried to introduce during his brief tenure.

Why these conservatives, who failed 15 months ago, were so successful now, is a matter for conjecture. One reason may have been that their opponents did not have, this time, a candidate of sufficiently recognized stature who also enjoyed the support of the army and the KGB. The pragmatists may also have been divided between backers of Mikhail Gorbachev and Grigori Romanov, their two reported candidates.

More than a few members of the Politburo may have figured, too, that by choosing Mr. Chernenko they were leaving the way open for change in a few years, while if they selected a younger man they would be stuck with him for a long time to come. In the meantime, the pragmatists, thanks to nominations made by Andropov from his sick bed, are powerful in the Politburo, and may assure the continuity of some of the Andropov reforms.

Those reforms, needless to say, did not include any measure of liberalization, just as they included no softening towards the West. Mr. Andropov was too grounded in the KGB ethos for that. As a matter of fact, things grew worse in terms of respect for human rights, not least for Jews, in the Soviet Union during the Andropov era.

There is little reason to assume this will become any better under a man given to denouncing all liberal trends. But while Brezhnev was in power, Mr. Chernenko was a staunch supporter of détente, and only recently he has called for "a fruitful dialogue among nations living under different social systems."

It would be too much to expect such a dialogue to start in earnest at once, while the polemic over the stationing of the U.S. medium-range ballistic missiles in Europe is still raging. Yet both President Reagan, who is eager to show himself to American voters as peace-loving, and Mr. Chernenko, who needs to demonstrate that he can master foreign affairs, may have a stake in a summit meeting in the summer.

Such a summit just might lead to some relaxation of tensions between the two super-powers.

This could rebound to Israel's benefit as well. Experience, not least under Andropov, has shown that Russia's gates do not open up for Jewish emigration in times of serious tensions with the U.S.

To be sure, all Israelis readily share Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's hope that the Soviet Union's entire policy towards this country be reversed. But for the time being, this is merely wishful thinking.

Change of Programme at the Cinematheque, Jerusalem  
The screening of "Prince of the City", at the Cinematheque, Jerusalem, TODAY Tuesday, February 14, at 9 p.m. is cancelled.  
Instead, there will be a screening of  
"THE NIGHT OF THE SPIES" (1959) directed by Robert Hossein and in the presence of the leading lady MARINA VLADY.  
(French version with subtitles in Hebrew).

Israel Museum, Jerusalem,  
Ruth Youth Wing Library  
**American Children's Books**  
Talk by Margaret Soifer, Tuesday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.

# Opportunity the opposition missed

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

THE ALIGNMENT looked silly last week when it tried to milk for all it was worth the technical bill on the adjudication of crimes committed by Israeli civilians in Lebanon. The energy put into that debate would have been better invested in the lacklustre debate that followed on the State Comptroller's Report.

The bill was one of those draft laws the Knesset is frequently asked to approve "extending the validity of emergency regulations" already in force. The regulations will expire on February 29, and the government wanted them extended for another six months.

Hardly a *cassus belli*. No one who voted for such a bill could have been accused of approving even one kilometre's worth of our invasion of Lebanon. Or a single shot fired there.

But the Alignment faction thought otherwise. Why waste a chance to sock the government?

Mordechai Gur was the heavy artillery, and his observations were repeated, with only slight variations, by the six other Alignment speakers, not to mention Charlie Biton and the two members of Shinui.

Here is Gur's punch-line: "Let those who dared to decide on a war in such needless dimensions, and who became more and more entangled in it, have the daring to stand up and present a plan for getting out instead of bringing us nonsensical bills like this."

And here is Aharon Harel's version of the same thought:

"We find ourselves today stuck deep in the Lebanese mud. But instead of considering how to get out of Lebanon very quickly, we deal with the extension of emergency regulations. Can anything be more absurd, more cynical than this?"

Haim Ramon put it more succinctly: "Until the government pulls back the troops, the Knesset should refuse to pass any bill concerning Lebanon."

But even Gur did not think it wise for us to leave Lebanon tomorrow morning. He proposed that the

government announce now our intention to withdraw within three months, and added that the Shi'ites not yet involved in the fighting would look after the defence of the areas we evacuate.

My interest here is not in the merit of Gur's suggestion, or in the substantive question of our continued stay in Lebanon.

All I contend is that it makes no sense for even the most rabid Peace Now demonstrator to object to the extension of the emergency regulations. If the regulations are permitted to expire and a legal vacuum is created, will that bring home the boys even one minute sooner?

BUT, FOR ALL its fractured logic, this artificial attempt of the Alignment to link a bread-and-butter piece of legislation with an ideology of war and peace could have been passed over as part of the political game — were it not for the Alignment's sin of omission immediately afterwards.

Instead of rehearsing its indictment of the government's actions in Lebanon, the Alignment would have shown more imagination in turning the debate on the State Comptroller's Report into a major event. That would have been good for the Alignment and good for the country.

Instead of only four of its 50 members speaking in that debate, there should have been twenty-four. Instead of the six (on average) Alignment members present, they should have mobilized thirty-six. Including some of the big guns.

The Likud benches were even emptier, which is par for the course. When the debate was opened by State Control Committee chairman Abraham Katz-Oz (Alignment), Yitzhak Berman and Dan Tichon were the only Likud MKs present — and Tichon's excuse for being there was that he was due to speak right after Katz-Oz. He left shortly after he did so.

But today we are not criticizing the poor attendance as such. The point is simply that the poor atten-

dance and participation of the Alignment in this particular debate constituted poor strategy.

Ideally, of course, sound and courteous public administration for the citizen should be the concern of all parties. In practice, however, it is the opposition that takes this matter to its heart — and the State Control Committee is always headed by an opposition MK.

THE ANNUAL debate on the committee's recommendations on the State Comptroller's Report is a boon for the opposition. Not every day does it get a chance to thrash the government while clearly being on the side of the angels.

On most other issues, there are two sides, or more. But can anyone justify the failure of the government to correct the wrongs pointed out by the State Comptroller?

This was the opportunity that the Alignment missed, and it was pitiful to listen to Katz-Oz bemoaning the non-implementation of the Comptroller's recommendations, despite their reinforcement by Knesset resolutions with only six of his Alignment colleagues present to give him moral support.

One of the four Alignment speakers was Edna Solodar, who devoted her speech to the committee's draft resolution dealing with the Comptroller's finding that inadequate government inspection of drinking water constitutes a danger to the public's health.

There were 23 other draft resolutions in the booklet prepared by the committee, including such matters as safety at railroad crossings, national service for religious girls, control of linked life-insurance premiums, subsidies to Egged, and exchange-rate insurance for exporters.

IMAGINE 23 other Alignment MKs following Solodar's example, each getting the floor to elaborate on another of those 24 subjects. Imagine, too, that an additional 10 or 15 Alignment MKs were in the chamber, just listening.

## Dry Bones



Stretch your imagination a little further. The Alignment's front-bench is fully occupied, and its occupants take an active part in the debate, drawing on their experience in the cabinet or the army to propose ways of getting the government to implement the Comptroller's recommendations.

Peres is there, former defence minister and before that transport and communications minister; Rabin is there, former chief of staff and prime minister; Bar-Lev is there, former chief of staff and industry minister.

So are Shemtov, former health minister; Hillel, former police minister; and Gad Ya'acobi, the Alignment's shadow finance minister, or so they say.

I can picture word of what's going on in the chamber getting to the Knesset restaurant, and a few coalition members trickling in, out of curiosity, and then summoning reinforcements, to take part in the debate and rebut Alignment arguments.

I can see the empty press gallery filling up with reporters who want to know what all the fuss is about. If nothing else, maybe it will provide a

bit of "colour" for the paper.

KATZ-OZ SUGGESTED that the only solution to the contempt with which government ministries treat the Comptroller's recommendations is a law that would make compliance compulsory.

He did not give any details on the sort of law he had in mind, but he threw a challenge to the Knesset: If not a law, then what alternative did the House propose to ensure that the ministries take action?

Not one of the six MKs who spoke in the debate picked up the glove. But if there had been 24 speakers, some of them would undoubtedly have addressed themselves to the question. Would a law help and, if not, what is the solution?

The new wind that might have blown in the Knesset last week did not materialize. But the Alignment will undoubtedly have another chance to put the Knesset to the test for which a parliament is designed.

But first it must remember that Lebanon is not the only issue.

The writer is The Jerusalem Post Knesset reporter.

## READERS' LETTERS

### THE PRICE OF CANDLES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Mr. Berger's letter of January 22 regarding Chinese candles in a Boro Park supermarket makes very nice sentimental reading, but does not reflect the true economic facts of candle purchasing. Your correspondent is perfectly correct in his assumption "that each who welcomes the Sabbath should have the right to choose if she wants to make the blessing on candles made by Chinese workers or Jewish workers," but it is also her entitlement to purchase her candles at a reasonable price.

As there is no halachic ruling forbidding the use of Chinese candles for Jewish ritual purposes, she will obviously make her purchase, at the most economic price, as the supermarket to which Mr. Berger refers obviously does. If the Ner Zion product were to hold a candle, price-wise, to its Chinese counterpart, the store would stock.

The U.S. consumer, unlike the Israeli, is an astute and prudent shopper and, to put the matter into a correct perspective, a short analysis of the retail price of Israeli candles will answer Mr. Berger's query as to why he saw Chinese candles in "a Boro Park shtetle." I am

not conversant with the prices of the Ner Zion product as I purchase the Menora brand in packs of 72 manufactured by Rubenstein Bros., of Tel Aviv. In June 1983, a 72-pack in my local Co-op Supermarket was priced at \$141, which was then \$3. In November, the price of the same pack was \$1365, i.e. \$4. This shows an increase in dollars of 33 per cent in five months, whereas in this same period, the dollar inflated by only 1.9 per cent. The comparative increase in shekels for the same five-month period was 260 per cent. Where is the rationale for these exorbitant profits, for that is what they are?

I feel that, for too long, our retail outlets have been burning their candles at both ends, to the detriment of the long-suffering consumer, and the two flames are rapidly reaching the centre. When they do, some smart businessman will import Chinese candles and the public will benefit. As your correspondent says, "each woman should have the right to decide if she wants to support the economy of China or Kiryat Gat." Most of Diaspora Jewry would choose the latter, but at a price.

JOE GOODMAN

Jerusalem.

### SMOKING ON PLANES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I wish to express my disappointment at the fact that passenger planes were not included in the list of public places where smoking is prohibited. I can think of no other place where the non-smokers are so grossly discriminated against as within the narrow confines of the passenger plane. To add insult to injury, we are expected to go through the motions of being able to state our preference, when getting the ticket, in order to make it seem that everything is fair and equal. But in reality, the non-smoker, or the person whose whole organism objects to having to adjust to a smoke-infested environment, is compelled to breathe the smoke-diluted air for hours at a stretch with no possible way of finding relief.

On one occasion, there were absolutely no seats among the non-smokers and my husband and I had to sit among the smokers. During the trip, many of the smokers, who

preferred to sit among the non-smokers, came over to our part of the compartment and added their smoke to the already overcongested air.

On another occasion we were luckier. We managed to get the last seats in the "non-smoking compartment." In the row behind us, the people were smoking.

After that, we were much wiser and the next time we had to travel, we were at the airport early enough to have first choice for a seat. "As far away from the smokers as possible," we pleaded and were given seats in row two. One row ahead of us, a curtain, with many openings, separated us from the smokers in the first class compartment.

Ramat Hasharon.

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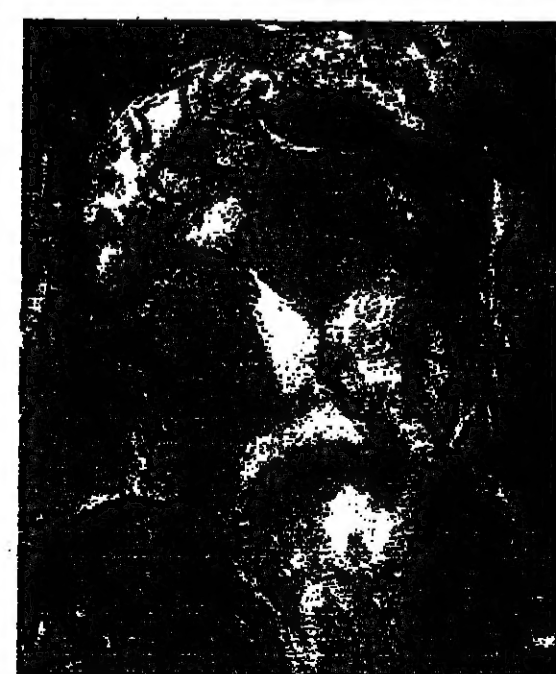
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